FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Soviet Union

Vol III No 012

17 January 1986

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U.S., SOVIET COMMENTS ON GORBACHEV STATEMENT

PRAVDA Editorial

PM162005 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Program for Lasting Peace"]

[Text] The statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, putting forward a package of major new foreign policy initiatives has generated tremendous interest. It is a case of an epoch-making document in the struggle of Lenin's party and the Soviet State for lasting and universal peace. Our country is submitting for peoples' judgement and governments' examination, a program for the full and universal abolition of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, man's liberation from the threat of self-annihilation, and the safeguarding of reliable security for present and future generations of earth's inhabitants.

This lofty goal has been put on the agenda of world politics for practical implementation at a notable time. The year of the 27th CPSU Congress has come -- the congress which will adopt a program for accelerating our peaceful building. By a UN decision 1986 is International Peace Year.

A turn for the better is needed in the international arena. The peoples of the Soviet Union and the entire world are waiting for it and demanding it. Proceeding from this premise, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and the Soviet Government have decided on a number of major, fundamental foreign policy actions.

"Their purport," the statement notes, "is to promote the improvement of the international situation to the maximum. They are dictated by the need to overcome the negative, confrontationist tendencies which have grown up in recent years and to clear the way for curtailment of the nuclear arms race on earth and its prevention in space, for a general reduction in the threat of war, and for the establishment of trust as an inalienable component of relations between states."

Chief among these actions is the specific program, geared to an explicitly defined period of time, for the total abolition of nuclear weapons throughout the world. It is time, high time, to rid mankind of the fear of a nuclear catastrophe and to place a great discovery of human genius -- the energy of the atom -- only at the service of peace and the benefit of the peoples. This is a realistic and feasible matter if we embark on it immediately -- directly in 1986.

The Soviet Union proposes acting gradually and consistently to implement and complete the process of earth's liberation from nuclear weapons within the next 15 years, before the start of the next century.

The first stage presupposes that over 5-8 years the USSR and the United States will halve their nuclear armaments capable of reaching each other's territory. No more than 6,000 charges each will be retained on their remaining delivery vehicles.

Obviously, such a radical reduction is only possible if the USSR and the United States mutually abandon the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike weapons. The creation [sozdaniye] of these weapons, as the Soviet Union has repeatedly warned, would cancel out the hope of reducing nuclear weapons on earth.

In the first state, it is further intended to liquidate USSR and U.S. medium-range missiles -- both ballistic and cruise missiles -- in the European zone.

This would be the first step on the path of freeing the European Continent of nuclear weapons. Here, according to the logic of things, the United States must adopt a commitment not to supply its strategic missiles and medium-range missiles to other countries. Britain and France must undertake not to build up their own corresponding nuclear weapons.

In the second stage, which should begin no later than 1990 and last 5-7 years, the other nuclear powers are to begin to join in nuclear disarmament. The USSR and the United States in the same period are to continue the reductions negotiated in the first stage and carry out further measures to liquidate their own medium-range nuclear weapons and freeze their tactical nuclear means.

Following a 50-percent reduction of their corresponding weapons by the Soviet Union and the United States in the second stage, another radical step will be taken -- tactical nuclear weapons are to be liquidated by all nuclear powers.

In the same period, the Soviet-U.S. accord banning space strike weapons should have become comprehensive, with obligatory participation by the leading industrial powers. All nuclear powers would halt nuclear weapon tests.

The third stage is to open no later than 1995. The liquidation of all remaining nuclear weapons is to be concluded. By the end of 1999 there are to be no more nuclear weapons left on earth. A universal agreement is to be elaborated to prevent the revival of these weapons ever again.

The Soviet proposals are large-scale, topical, and specific. Unlike the U.S. "star wars" plan, which envisages the creation [sozdaniye] of new space strike weapons using nuclear energy, our program is really a program to destroy nuclear weapons.

The practical approach to this great goal is confirmed by yet another important decision of the Soviet Union. As the CPSU Central Committee general secretary stated, we are extending our unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions, which expired 31 December 1985, by 3 months. This is a major new act of goodwill. The extension of the moratorium is not an easy decision for the Soviet Union. It cannot indefinitely display unilateral restraint as regards nuclear tests. But the stake is too high and the responsibility for the fate of peace is too great not to try out all possibilities for influencing the position of others by force of example. The United States is being given extra time to weigh up the Soviet proposals on halting nuclear explosions. The peoples expect and demand a serious approach by Washington. The U.S. side's pursuit of the chimera of military superiority is a fruitless and dangerous policy. The USSR proposes embarking on the path of judicious and responsible decisions.

The talks on nuclear and space weapons being resumed in Geneva are of special importance in this connection. During the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting, it was resolved to speed them up and this agreement cannot remain a declaration. A constructive approach by the U.S. side is needed primarily on the question of space. Space must remain peaceful, strike weapons must not be deployed there. Nor must they be created [sozdavatsya]. Preventing the spread of the arms race to near-earth space means opening the way for an in-depth reduction of nuclear weapons.

The European aspect of the nuclear problem is very important. The security conditions on the continent are becoming increasingly worse. It is time to put an end to this development of events and cut this Gordian knot. The Soviet proposals to free Europe of both medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons remain in force.

The initial radical step in this direction has already been proposed by the Soviet Union in the first stage of the program to liquidate nuclear weapons.

It is no accident that a considerable number of the new Soviet initiatives are addressed precisely to Europe. It can perform a special mission -- the rebuilding of detente.

As well as complete liquidation of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, the Soviet Union deems it a perfectly realistic task to completely eliminate that barbarous means of mass destruction, chemical means, by the same date also. Here, our country proposes liquidating, on a mutual basis, the actual industrial base for the manufacture of chemical weapons. The Soviet proposals in this sphere are of exceptional importance. They make it possible to intensify the talks to conclude an effective international convention, subject to verification, to ban chemical weapons and destroy their stocks, as was agreed at the Geneva meeting.

The package of new initiatives put forward in the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's statement encompasses all of the most important avenues and spheres of activity devoted to the interests of disarmament, restoration of trust, and strengthening of the prospects for a peaceful future and all peoples' progress. Important constructive considerations have been expressed in respect to the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. A key to the solution of outstanding problems at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security- and Disarmament in Europe has been proposed. The implementation of the program for eliminating nuclear and chemical weapons by the end of the current century would also raise Asian security to a qualitatively new level and would represent a contribution to the joint quest, alongside all Asian countries, for a common comprehensive approach to shaping a system of security and lasting peace on the planet's largest and most densely populated continent.

The Soviet program provides a counterbalance to the runaway nuclear arms race. It is permeated by a bold, innovative approach to resolving outstanding problems. The Soviet stance in respect to monitoring the destruction and reduction of arms, as set out in the statement, is of key importance in this context. The USSR is prepared to adopt virtually any measures to strictly monitor whatever is necessary, be it the absence of explosions, a ban on the creation [sozdaniye] of space strike arms (including inspection of the relevant laboratories), or the reduction of conventional arms, and so forth. All this refutes the favorite excuse behind which the opponents of ending the arms race tried to hide. Monitoring is not a problem for the USSR: the problem lies in the political will and goodwill which the United States and other NATO countries which pay lip service to disarmament will have to prove.

The whole world sees that it is not the USSR which is holding matters up. Quite the reverse, it is purposefully seeking a solution to the cardinal problems of the present time and seeking by force of its own example, by force of constructive ideas and realistic, businesslike proposals based on the principles of equality and identical security and proceeding from the interests of strengthening peace, both in the world as a whole and in its individual regions. The notorious NATO rantings about the "Soviet military threat" have been utterly crushed. Only a state which truly affirms peace and security in the world can put forward such proposals and take such steps.

The new Soviet proposals are addressed not just to governments, but to all peoples, all public forces and antiwar movements, to all people of goodwill. That is understandable. Preserving peace and deliveringmankind from the threat of nuclear war is a matter which concerns one and all. All forces which favor peace must be mobilized, united, and galvanized into action to ensure the success of this cause. The Soviet program for a nuclear-free world is in keeping with the aspirations of all peoples. Unquestionably, it will gain the ardent support of millions upon millions of people throughout the world.

The entire content of the statement is new concrete expression of the peace-loving foreign policy of our party and state. The constructive proposals that have been put forward are a practical embodiment of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum line which has been enshrined in the draft new edition of the CPSU Program; they are the embodiment of the policy of struggle for peace and social progress. The USSR's new steps are an expression of the Soviet people's single-minded desire to engage in creative labor and live in peace with all peoples. The Soviet people ardently approve and support the new resolute actions in defense of peace and for improving the entire international situation. They regard them as the expression of the spirit and flesh of our domestic and foreign policy and of their organic unity. By their labor they strengthen the cause of peace. The competition in honor of the 27th CPSU Congress is under way everywhere. Large-scale work to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development is in progress.

The Land of the Soviets is hoisting even higher the banner of peace, freedom, and humanism which Great October raised above the planet.

Reagan, Shultz Reactions

PM162015 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

["White House Reaction to M.S. Gorbachev's Statement" -- IZVESTIYA headline]

[Text] Washington, 16 Jan (TASS) -- The White House has circulated the U.S. President's statement in connection with the new Soviet proposals, set forth in the statement of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev. Ronald Reagan welcomes the statement of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and expresses the hope that the Soviet proposals will constitute a useful further step in the process of reducing nuclear armaments. He points out that the United States, jointly with its allies, will carefully study the proposals of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Many elements contained in the Soviet documents, the President's statement says, "have not altered compared with the Soviet Union's previous positions." At the same time, it is noted further, the Soviet proposal contains other elements which it seems at first glance, can be constructive.

The President referred to various remarks on questions of strategic nuclear arms which he had made at various times. In this connection, attention is drawn to the fact that the White House document in question completely passes over the issue of not allowing the creation, testing and deployment [sozdaniye, ispytaniye i razvertyvaniye] of offensive space arms.

The President points out that the U.S. delegation in Geneva is charged with implementing the accord reached at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva with the aim of achieving very speedy progress in the matter of "achieving radical reductions of offensive nuclear arms and, in particular, concluding a provisional agreement concerning intermediate-range nuclear forces." The U.S. President notes that if the position formulated by the general secretary brings us closer to this aim, then this may be a constructive step.

At the same time the President's statement was made, U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz gave an interview to ABC television, in which, while avoiding discussion of the specific proposals submitted by the Soviet Union, he generally tried to demonstrate that the United States has previously been calling for the destruction of all nuclear arms and that this is the stance held by the President at the moment. In the same way as Reagan, Shultz failed to say a word about the interlinkage of the whole complex of space and nuclear arms -- strategic and medium-range.

To a direct question about the U.S. attitude toward the Soviet proposal about destroying medium-range missiles, Shultz went into arguments about "globalism," about the need for discussing this question, about defining the term "destruction" of this weapon more closely, and so forth, which prompted a remark from a correspondent that his reply sounded ambiguous. To this Shultz replied he was not trying to be ambiguous and repeated in general that the United States is in favor of the destruction of all types of nuclear arms.

Karpov Remarks

LD162015 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Our correspondent has met the leader of the Soviet delegation in Geneva, Comrade Karpov. Here is what he said:

[Begin Karpov recording] Two months ago a meeting took place here in Geneva between the leaders of the USSR and the United States in the course of which specific directions for further efforts on the question of eliminating nuclear weapons were defined. Now in his statement for the first time during the nuclear era, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has formulated a concrete program for eliminating nuclear armaments everywhere on earth by the end of the century. The Soviet delegation will be absolutely guided in the negotiations with the United States by this statement.

Our negotiations are charged with great responsibility -- the responsibility for ensuring the first stage in the elimination of nuclear weapons. It would be a great achievement if the Soviet Union and the United States reached an agreement on reducing their armaments by half. Through this they would be setting an example to other nuclear states. Proceeding from this, the delegation of the Soviet Union today began the negotiations with the U.S. delegation. [end recording]

Space Arms Ban Not a 'Precondition'

LD162008 Hamburg DPA in German 1829 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Bonn, 16 Jan (DPA) -- Vladislav Teretskov, the Soviet charge d'affaires in Bonn, said at a news conference today on the subject of Gorbachev's proposals that the "removal" of all medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe suggested by the Communist Party leader does not only mean their withdrawal. What is involved is rather the actual destruction of this weapon potential.

Teretskov does not want Gorbachev's allusion to a mutual renunciation by the superpowers of the development, testing, and stationing of space weapons to be regarded as a "precondition" for realizing the Soviet proposals. It would, however, be nonsensical to begin the destruction of all nuclear weapons and at the same time, work on a new weapon system like SDI.

Teretskov would not comment on the negotiations between Bonn and Washington on a technological agreement. It must be left to the Federal Government what conclusions it draws from the new Soviet initiative. However, Teretskov drew attention to Gorbachev's assertion that it is the task of all states and not only the superpowers to prevent an arms race in space.

Soviet Envoy Discusses Proposal

DW170830 Hamburg ARD Television Network in German 2135 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Werner Schawer report in the "Tagesthemen" program]

[Text] The diplomats are receiving correspondents. Today it was the turn of the Russians. A week ago the U.S. ambassador invited the press and demanded measures against Libya. In the Soviet Embassy today, other dimensions were involved.

Envoy Terekhov expanded on the disarmament proposals of his general secretary, which appear to be nearly utopian. One of the first steps he proposes is aimed at the interests of many Europeans.

[Begin Terekhov recording] In this phase, a great step with regard to the intermediate-range weapons in Europe is possible as well, that is to say, the immediate, complete elimination of all Soviet and U.S. ballistic missiles and cruise missiles in the European zone. [end recording]

Elimination of the intermediate-range weapons, he explained in response to repeated questions, means their destruction. What primarily matters to the Soviet Union is the U.S. SDI antimissile system. This, he maintained, turns the strategic balance into strategic chaos. He preferred to answer questions in Russian.

[Begin recording Terekhov interpreter] The statement of the general secretary says that a new approach is required now, that it is necessary to replace the logic of confrontation and of the Stone Age -- in which everyone was endeavoring to have the heavier stone -- with the logic of cooperation and joint ventures. [end recording]

Terekhov stressed that the Soviet Union is receptive to on-the-spot verification of disarmament. The questions ceased after about 1 hour. He announced that he would invite the press again whenever new information was available.

Bogachev Notes Proposal's Aim

LD161821 Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 16 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev.

Having adopted its "star wars" programme in 1983, Washington announced that the deployment of new ABM strike weapons in outer space would be, allegedly, the best way to make nuclear armaments "impotent and obsolete".

The U.S. Administration's goal of seeking to devitalize nuclear weapons in itself does not draw any objections. But serious doubts about the sincerity of American statements about the objectives of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" are generated by the fact that Washington suggests advancing towards disarmament over a comparatively limited area of the earth's surface through moving the arms race into a new sphere -- infinite space.

While promising to reduce nuclear armouries at some future date, the U.S. Administration is intensively building up its strategic offensive weapons. It is about to put into service MX intercontinental ballistic missiles, Midgetman and submarine-launched Trident-2 ballistic missiles, and is positioning Pershing-2 medium-range missiles in Western Europe.

Even the "defensive" ABM systems, currently developed in the United States under its "star wars" plan -- particle-beam weapons, nuclear-powered x-ray lasers and other devices -- are slated for deployment in outer space chiefly above Soviet territory. Washington is trying to convince the socialist countries that these armaments are intended solely for destroying missiles in flight.

Experts, however, while expressing their doubts as to the systems' ability to reliably hit flying objects in space, stress that they can be used much more effectively in a first strike at ground-based targets.

The point at issue, thus, is not only the development of an anti-ballistic missile defence system for the United States, which might generate the dangerous illusion of impunity in aggression, but also the deployment of an extremely destabilizing American "astrodome" complete with strike space weapons above the socialist countries.

The Soviet Union denounces the plans of spreading the arms race into outer space that can only enhance the threat of a devastating nuclear war. The Soviet Union counterposes a practical programme of ridding mankind of the fear of a nuclear catastrophe to the baseless American concept of disarmament through the militarization of space which provides, in fact, only for the militarization of outer space, but not for disarmament. The Soviet programme offers a step-by-step reduction and ultimately total elimination of nuclear arsenals within the next 15 years while keeping weapons out of space.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has declared that no one will lose from the implementation of the programme, while everyone will benefit from it.

Kornilov Views Importance

LD161128 Moscow TASS in English 1124 GMT 16 Jan 86

["Into the Third Millenium -- Without Nuclear Weapons!" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 16 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Yuriy Kornilov.

Once again the attention of the world is riveted to Moscow from where came an impassioned call for peace, for reversing resolutely the negative course of events, for ending the era of confrontation and entering an era of talks, an era of detente, for assisting to a maximum degree an improvement of the international situation. Discussing and commenting on the statement made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, prominent political and public figures and the mass media in different countries stress that the statement is truly a milestone document in the consistent effort of the U.S.S.R. to safeguard and strengthen peace, to ensure that the world should approach the end of the 20th century under the sign of peace and nuclear disarmament which would meet the vital interests and aspirations of all people of the world.

And this is really so. Loyal to its principled Leninist policy of peace, the Soviet Union rejects the stake on force in politics, rejects such a course of action that can lead to confrontation. What is the most important element in the complex of wide-scale foreign policy initiatives and actions of principled character which underlie the foreign policy of the U.S.S.R.?

The backbone of these actions is doubtless a large-scale and concrete program for the elimination of nuclear weapons the world over -- the program to be carried out over a definite period of time. Our country proposes a step-by-step and consistent process of ridding the earth of nuclear weapons, to be implemented and completed within the next 15 years, before the end of this century.

Our country is in favor of the U.S.S.R. and the United States reducing by one half the nuclear arms that can reach each other's territory -- as early as at the first stage of the realization of that program, that is, within the next 5-8 years -- naturally enough, given the mutual renunciation of the development, testing and deployment of space strike arms, for the production of such arms would blast every hope for a reduction of nuclear arsenals on earth. Our country wants to see the other nuclear powers joining in the process of nuclear disarmament at the second stage which is to start no later than 1990. Developing and deepening, that process is to enter the final third stage during which the elimination of all remaining nuclear weapons would be completed.

This is a large-scale realistic and truly impressive program which, if realized, would mean that this planet enters the third millenium without nuclear weapons! Is there any need to say that no one stands to lose from the implementation of such a program, that, on the contrary, everyone will benefit from it?

Of course, this is an open secret that in the present day world there exist forces which do not like the line toward the revival and consolidation of the process of detente. It is well known that a mighty military-industrial complex which was created in the West, primarily in the United States, today, like before, acts as a motive force of the relentless arms race, a generator of militarism. It is well known that speeches are still coming today from some of the highest rostrums in the West -- speeches aimed at dispelling the "spirit of Geneva" -- that new factor which favorably influences international relations today.

The reaction to the new, exceptionally important and constructive Soviet proposals, the readiness to transfer them to the level of practical actions will undoubtedly make it possible to find out more clearly and fully who is indeed striving sincerely and consistently to put an end to the threat of nuclear self-annihiliation and who, paying lip service to peace, in actual fact would like to work in the opposite direction, trying not only to carry on with the nuclear arms race on earth, but also to project it to outer space. If the U.S. Administration, as it has repeatedly affirmed, is dedicated to the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere, it now has a practical possibility really to engage in it.

The new Soviet peace initiatives and actions which the French newspaper L'HUMANITE with good reason describes as "an invitation to peace" is another powerful blow at the ill-intentioned lies, played up in some places in the West, about "Moscow's aggressiveness" and about the "Soviet threat" that does not exist in reality. It is clear to every unbiased person that such a wide-scale and constructive program, as the one formulated in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement, could come only from a genuinely peaceful state, only from a country which places the cause of strengthening peace and ensuring security of nations above everything else in its foreign policy. The Soviet Union is working toward the attainment of these lofty aims. The whole world can see now that the U.S.S.R. hoists even higher the banner of peace, freedom and humanism unfolded over this planet by the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Shishlin Sees 'Concrete Program'

LD162154 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Our permanent correspondent in Moscow, Stefan Babiak, asked prominent Soviet commentator Nikolay Shishlin how the latest [arms] initiatives are assessed in the USSR:

[Begin Shishlin recording in Russian fading into Czech translation] I think that such a wide and all-encompassing plan for settling crucial world problems has never existed before.

The ideas contained in the declaration by Mikhail Gorbachev further develop the joint line prepared at the Prague and Sofia sessions of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee. However, I would like to stress the fact that this is not only a repetition of known facts. The CPSU general secretary's statement concentrates on the most important problem of our times: doing away with nuclear arsenals. The plan contained in Comrade Gorbachev's statement offers a concrete program of actions, the implementation of which would make the world into a more peaceful and more civilized place in which people could happily live and work. [end recording]

Differing Opinions Cited

LD162204 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has aroused worldwide interest. Foreign reaction to the document is discussed by our commentator Viktor Levin:

In the new comprehensive peace initiative of the Soviet Union, declared Pham Van Dong, member of the Vietnamese Communist Party Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to TASS's Hanoi correspondent, the USSR is again displaying its high degree of responsibility for the destiny of present and future generations.

The U.S. mass media also refer to this responsibility, although they do not use that particular definition of it. That was how I understood a commentator of the U.S. television company ABC when he stressed that, for Moscow, the monitoring of nuclear explosions was not a problem. The Soviet Union is in favor of it. But in the United States, attempts are still being made to turn the problem of monitoring into a stumbling block. In a press statement, President Reagan welcomed the new Soviet initiatives and expressed hope that the Soviet proposals will be a useful further step in the process of reducing nuclear armaments. The President is in favor of giving them careful study. Secretary of State Shultz said there is a great deal in the statement made by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee that is of interest, but, on the whole, he defended the current U.S. position.

It seems to me that there could hardly have been any other initial reaction from official Washington. The whole question rests with the mood in which they will study the Soviet proposals. Will they strive to find points of contact or will they bend all their efforts toward playing up the differences and continuing with the "star wars" program? Naturally, there is as yet no answer to this question, but a great deal depends on it. As the Soviet document points out, the creation of offensive weapons for use in space cancels out the hope of reducing nuclear armaments on earth.

The Soviet Union has demonstrated that it approaches the most acute problems of modern times with a high level of responsibility. Not only we, but the whole world expects this of other states too.

Soviet Peace Group's Approval

LD162121 Moscow TASS in English 1916 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 16 TASS — The Soviet Peace Committee expressed complete approval of and strong support for the new peace initiatives advanced in the statement of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev. The statement adopted by the Presidium of the Soviet Peace Committee today, says that bold, far-reaching proposals of the USSR open up a real opportunity to put an end to the insanity of the arms race, to remove the threat of nuclear catastrophe forever.

The new Soviet peace initiatives are an evidence of lofty responsibility for the destinies of peace, a manifestation of new thinking and new policy determined by the realities of the nuclear age. They reflect numerous initiatives and proposals advanced by peace movements of different countries, they mean materialisation of the "Geneva spirit", the statement says. The Soviet Peace Committee turns to anti-war organisations and movements of the USA on which it largely depends now what direction the further developments will take.

Motivated by the striving to arrest and reverse the nuclear arms race, manifesting good will, our country extended for another three months the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions introduced on August 6, 1985, the Soviet peace champions note. We expect and hope that this step will be duly appreciated, we believe in the common sense and peacefulness of the American people. While it is not too late, an end must be put to nuclear explosions in the USA and talks must be started on banning all nuclear tests everywhere.

The Soviet proposals give humanity a unique chance to arrest the sliding to the abyss of nuclear war, to guarantee mankind's survival. There must be no indifferent people when faced with the choice put by history itself, the statement says. We extend the hand to anti-war organisations and movements of all countries and continents and we call for launching together wide struggle so that mankind should usher in the year 2000 under the peaceful skies, the statement says.

CORRESPONDENTS EXAMINE CHANCES FOR PROGRESS AT TALKS

'Moments That Give Rise to Concern'

LD161853 Moscow TASS in English 1827 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Geneva, January 16 TASS -- By TASS corespondent Yevgeniy Korzhev

The latest statement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, which contains a comprehensive programme of eliminating nuclear weapons, stresses the prime importance of the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space armaments that were resumed in Geneva today.

Can one expect from them any shifts, practical results? This question is being asked now not only by political observers, but also the world public at large.

Hopes that constructive solutions can be found to problems of international security re-emerged following the recent meeting in Geneva between Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan. The principled provision of their joint declaration to the effect that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought, that there can be no winners in it, and that neither the Soviet Union nor the United States will seek to achieve military superiority evoked universal approval.

It is also noteworthy that the top leaders of both nations agreed to accelerate the work at the Geneva negotiations with a view to accomplishing the tasks set down earlier of preventing an arms race in outer space and ending it on earth.

The programme for a total elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, set forth by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, creates an opportunity for making a genuine turn for the better in international relations and ridding mankind of the threat of nuclear annihilation.

The Soviet delegation to the talks confirmed on arrival in Geneva that it is prepared for a constructive dialogue. The dialogue itself, however, as well as the elaboration of mutually acceptable accords demand efforts from both sides. Regrettably, the American position reveals a number of moments that give rise to concern. This applies primarily to the persistent attempts by U.S. reactionary circles to reject the positive results of the Geneva meeting, to preserve and expand new programmes of armaments, above all, the notorious "star wars" project.

Equally worrying is the statement by the U.S. delegation that it intends to stick to the early proposals despite the fact that they not only totally ignore the key issue of banning the development of strike space armaments but, once realized, would also bring about an actual increase in the number of nuclear warheads and enable the United States to achieve unilateral military advantages.

According to Mikhail Gorbachev's statement, reaching tangible results at the Geneva talks would mean filling with considerable material content the Soviet side's programme for a total eradication of nuclear armaments by the year 2000. This is what peoples all over the world expect, this is what they demand.

'Responsible Approach' Essential

LD161853 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0400 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Report by commentator Sergey Pravdin with comments by correspondent Vladimir Dmitriyev from Geneva]

[Text] [Pravdin] The USSR-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons resume in Geneva today. As noted in the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, during the Soviet-U.S. summit last November it was decided to speed up the talks; this accord cannot remain just a declaration. The Soviet delegation in Geneva will have instructions to act in strict accordance with this accord. We, the statement says, expect the same constructive approach from the U.S. side. above all on the questions of space. Our correspondent Vladimir Dmitriyev reports from Geneva:

[Dmitriyev] The new round is beginning in conditions which are more favorable for achieving progress than the preceding round because as you know, the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting took place here in Geneva 2 months ago and during it the decision was made to speed up the talks. As far as the Soviet side is concerned, it has been and still is devoted to the cause of very speedily reaching concrete accords on all directions of the talks. It is essential that Washington also displays a responsible approach.

ZAGLADIN ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, USSR POLICY

AU141341 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 11 Jan 86 p 5

[Interview given by Vadim Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy head of the Central Committee's International Department: to special correspondent Peter Sereny and Moscow correspondent Istvan Zalai in Moscow: "Interview With Soviet Politician Vadim Zagladin -- Where Is the World Heading After Geneva?"; date not given; first paragraph is paper's introduction]

[Text] With the approach of the CPSU Congress, we asked Vadim Zagladin, CPSU Central Committee member and first deputy head of the Central Committee's International Department (of Central Committee secretary level) to comment on some international issues and current issues of Soviet peace policy. He received our special correspondent Peter Sereny and our Moscow correspondent Istvan Zalai at the Headquarters of the Central Committee in Moscow.

[Sereny, Zalai] In their foreign policy, the CPSU and the Soviet State start from the realities of the changing world. What is new nowadays in the activity of Soviet foreign policy?

[Zagladin] Last year's April CPSU Central Committee plenum spoke with emphasis about the importance of a multifaceted activization of Soviet foreign policy. You are right in saying that the CPSU and the Soviet State starts from the realities of our current world. The main characteristics of this reality are that the world has reached a very responsible and important crossroads. The dialectics of the arms race are such that, taking into consideration existing weapons and particularly those now appearing -- I mean the space war weapons -- war is in fact an impossibility. However, irresponsible forces might unleash one. In that event war would lead to global catastrophe. There would be no winners in this war.

Therefore, it was necessary to reevaluate certain truths considered to be absolute for centuries, such as, "if you want peace, prepare for war." Today it is obvious that further preparation for war does not at all guarantee the consolidation of peace. Neither can we strengthen the security of countries generally by accumulating increasingly destructive armaments of increasing power.

This fact dictated the Soviet leadership's serious and responsible steps to break the course of events and to make a turn from the arms race towards a reduction of arms and from confrontation towards detente. It was in the spirit of this fact that the Soviet Union took the unilateral steps that are well known also to Hungarian readers, like halting primarily the nuclear tests, placing a moratorium on the deployment of intermediate-range missiles on the European part of the Soviet Union, and even reducing the number of missiles already deployed to the level of June 1984. We have also declared that we will not be the first to go into space with arms. Here we must also mention the wide-ranging proposals of the Soviet Union like the ones aimed at avoiding the militarization of space and radically reducing -- by 50 percent -- the number of U.S. and Soviet nulcear missiles capable of reaching each other's territory.

We are also taking into consideration another reality of today's world, namely that it has several poles. Socially speaking, of course, the world is divided into two social systems. Politically speaking, however, this is not the case. The relations between the Soviet Union and the United States do of course play an extremely important role because these two countries are the strongest military powers.

This fact, however, contrary to Washington's opinion, in our view does not give these powers any special rights, but it does give them a huge responsibility.

In addition to the United States, the European countries and Japan, as well as the nonaligned countries, play a great and active role in world affairs. The countries of Africa and Latin America as well as those of the Pacific area are showing an increasing activity as independent factors. Our policy takes this circumstance into consideration. Soviet diplomacy is very active in practically all the main trends. And we believe that we succeeded in achieving a certain progress last year.

[Sereny, Zalai] The CPSU draft program strengthens the policy of peaceful coexistence. This postulates peaceful competition between the two world systems. Where do we stand today in this competition? What are the medium and long-term tasks?

[Zagladin] First of all, let me draw attention to the fact that there is a stipulation in the newly formulated CPSU Program about which we did not talk previously. We have always said -- and this is the common view of all countries -- that there is no alternative in our age to the policy of peaceful coexistence. The principles of this policy are well-known and Article 3 of the draft program of course repeats them. At the same time, our party regarded it important this time also to stress how the world should be like under relations of peaceful coexistence. The first paragraph of the draft program says that peaceful coexistence does not just mean the absence of war but an international order characterized not by military power but good-neighborliness and cooperation, and international order in which the exchange of scientific results and cultural values would be widespread. Favorable possiblities would be opened also to solve, through the joint efforts on all countries, the global problems facing mankind.

It is obvious that the competition between the two systems will continue also under such peaceful coexistence. In our view, this competition is of a comprehensive character. The CPSU Draft Program says that socialism must prove its advantages by setting an example in all areas of life: through the dynamic development of the economy, science and culture; the increase in the workers' standard of living; and the widening of socialist democracy. The process of competition between the two systems for us in fact means that we should gradually and increasingly discover the advantages inherent in the socialist society.

I have already mentioned that the competition is of a comprehensive character. The economy, and above all the scientific-technological revolution, are the main areas enjoying priority in the current phase. In this respect, our countries have a huge potential. A quarter of the world's scientists is concentrated in our countries. The CEMA countries are in the first place in the number of registered invention and innovation. However, we have not yet solved all the tasks concerning their implementation and the link between science and production.

I believe that the decision adopted at the 41st extraordinary session of CEMA, that is, our countries' comprehensive technological-scientific development program until the year 2000, provide a realistic basis for the progress in this direction of all the countries of the socialist community. We, in the Soviet Union, take this program very seriously.

Let me add something to this. In the course of the competition, we of course take notice of everything that is good in the capitalist world, everything that is an economic, scientific, and technological achievement.

It is obvious, however, that noticing these achievements does not mean that we mechanically repeat everything that happens in the capitalist world. If we did that, then socialism would after all only be a reflection on capitalism, and this cannot be our goal. I mean this both for production and consumption. It is obvious that the concepts of standard-of-living and living style in socialism are not the same as those in the capitalist world. Our concepts as to what the way of life and standard of living should be like in socialism are determined by a Marxist-Leninist thesis, namely that it is the historical mission of communism to create the conditions for the multifaceted development of the personality. Therefore, our ideal is not a consumer society but a society which, while ensuring the fulfillment of the people's material needs at a rational level, at the same time creates the conditions necessary for their intellectual, cultural, and physical development. Of course, all these questions must be further researched, a task that can be effective only if we take into consideration the experiences accumulated in all the countries of our community.

[Sereny, Zalai] The relations between the Soviet Union and the socialist countries enjoy priority in the new documents of the CPSU. At the same time, it is well known that the relations between the Soviet Union and the U.S. are of a decisive importance from the point of view of maintaining world peace. Please, explain this priority to us.

[Zagladin] There are many circumstances that have caused the CPSU to give a character of priority to its cooperation with the socialist countries. Two among these circumstances are the most important. The first is that the final goals of the working class and of the communist movement are embodied in our countries. All of us, each country on its own and taking into consideration its own particularities, are jointly building the new society and are advancing on the path to communism. And communism is not a phenomenon of local importance but a world historical one. In this great cause, cooperation, joint work, and exchange of views between the socialist countries are indispensable preconditions for success.

The second among the above-mentioned most important circumstances is that our countries and the entire socialist community are the bastions of universal peace. Our community's decisive contribution to the cause of peace is essentially recognized by everyone, even by our enemies. It is no accident that our enemies are making such great efforts to thwart the foreign policy of socialism and -- among other things -- to undermine the unity of our countries. It is our conviction that the strengthening of our countries' multifaceted and coordinated activity in the international arena is an important precondition for maintaining and consolidating peace. Therefore, this is the socialist foreign policy trend that necessarily enjoys priority.

[Zalai, Sereny] What do you think about the possible Soviet-U.S. arms negotiation developments 1 and 1/2 months after Geneva?

[Zagladin] The Geneva conference between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan was a historic event. However, the results achieved there can only be evaluated on the basis of both parties' concrete acts. At the moment, a good many statements can be heard in the United States in support of peace, disarmament, and the improvement of Soviet-U.S. relations. However, as far as deeds are concerned, they do not match up to the statements, or to be more precise: they oppose them. Indeed, arming is continuing in the United States. This applies to the "star wars" preparations, and what is more, the use of nuclear devices (this has been indicated by the recent nuclear explosion in Nevada, the aim of which was to test the nuclear generator system of space lasers).

Can the political line of "new globalism" that has been advocated by the United States and adopted in practice in fact be considered as being in accordance with the Geneva agreement? In fact, this is outright interference in other states' domestic affairs, and it threatens to create new hotbeds for military conflicts. Neither can we consider the intentions of the United States to cause the disintegration of the socialist community, which manifest themselves in attempts to pit certain countries or parties against others, as being in the spirit of Geneva. In other words, since Geneva, the atmosphere of relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, and the international atmosphere in general, has somewhat improved. But, in my opinion, it is dangerous to exaggerate the significance of this improvement. Considering the deeds of the United States in practice, the logical question emerges: What if they are trying to use this new atmosphere to disguise the old political line?

The world has remained complicated and complex, and for the time being, it has not been possible to stop the actual trends behind confrontations and the arms race. From this we draw the following conclusion: Efforts must continue to stabilize peace, activate joint peace offensives so that we arrive at a real turning point in world affairs. And it is natural that the internal success of the countries of socialism, the fulfillment of their programs for domestic affairs and the economy, continues to play a significant role, or if you like, fulfills the role of a foundation for peace. Our parties are all responsible before their peoples for the implementation of their political course, and this in turn is a great responsibility before the people of the world.

[Sereny, Zalai] To what extent is it possible for Soviet-U.S. relations to return to their normal channels? What reasons are there in favor of cooperation and what interests hinder it?

[Zagladin] It cannot be said that the relationship of the Soviet Union and the United States has been perfectly normal in the past, even if we think of the years of detente. The Soviet Union wishes to have good-neighborly relations with the United States, it wants to have peaceful cooperation in those issues where it is possible. So far, this has not been possible. And this is not the fault of the Soviet party.

What is the obstacle? It is the mood, the plans, and actions of social and political groups in the United States (and in some other Western countries) which have not abandoned the idea of gaining power and continue to regard military superiority and dictates to other nations as being the main purpose and task of their activities.

The CPSU's political line, the political line of all the countries in the socialist community, and their efforts to stop the arms race and confrontation, on the other hand, do promote a return to normal terms between the Soviet Union and the United States.

[Sereny, Zalai] In what form is it possible to return to detente?

[Zagladin] Let us have no guesses. At the moment it is clear that the first step on the road to peace must be the end of the arms race. There would be a great leap forword on this road if the United States agreed to introduce the moratorium on nuclear tests. Namely, such a moratorium is the same as taking steps toward an appropriate agreement on the gradual and complete elimination of nuclear explosions, and thus, the elimination of nuclear weaposn. Of course, it would be very significant if success for the Geneva negotiations on arms limitation were assured. At the meeting of the two countries' leaders there was agreement to speed up these negotiations.

They will soon commence and we shall see what conduct the U.S. representatives demonstrate. I myself, am not as yet an optimist, because the above mentioned practical steps of the United States do not give any ground for us to hope for rapid progress.

It is possible that the development in East-West relations will promote a return to detente. These contacts, including economic relations, help to improve the atmosphere and to make a part of those groups that are as yet passive join the side of detente.

However, there is no ground yet for exaggerating the role of such contacts. It is progress in the main strategic aims that is of decisive significance. One must never put the horse behind the carriage.

The cause of detente could be supported by all countries, whether large, medium, or small. A country is not only able to, but it also must support it. As far as our countries, the socialist countries, are concerned the main thing is a coordinated foreign policy. There is a reliable platform for this, namely, in the form of decisions and resolutions accepted by the leaders of our countries in Sofia and Prague. The platform of Sofia and Prague is the platform of detente.

[Sereny, Zalai] It seems that Soviet foreign policy has attached new importance to Western Europe in recent months. What is the reason for this, and in your opinion, what are the common and what are the adverse points in the interests of the Soviet Union and the capitalist countries in the region?

[Zagladin] As I have already mentioned, our political line attaches great importance to developing relations with all states, within the limit of reality in today's world. At the same time, Europe plays an important role in our policies. In Europe -- as in other regions of the world -- the indispensable condition for lasting and positive processes is to respect the regional and political reality that developed after the two world wars, which consequently means, to reject the revanchist tendencies of the imperialist powers.

Europe's role in our political line is determined by both historical and current political reasons; it must not be forgotten that both world wars fell upon us from Europe. The period of detente demonstrated great opportunities and the good prospects inherent in all-European cooperation. These possibilities must be exploited in their entirety. As regards this issue, there are some aspects where the interests of the capitalist West and the socialist East coincide on our continent.

Judging from impressions based on speeches of West European political factors, the press and personal meetings, it is evident that the West European states are trying to gain greater freedom of action with the NATO alliance. I think this is the natural result of contradictions that in fact exist between the United States and the West European countries both in the economic and the political fields.

Apart from this tendency, which is positive on the whole as regards the cause of peace, there are other tendencies in Europe. For example, the fact that the FRG and the United Kingdom have in various degrees, agreed to take part in the U.S. SDI program gives cause for caution. This is a direct participation in further increasing the arms race, in physically preparing for a war. It appears that serious dangers lie also in the development of the plan for a European defence initiative, which is insisted on at present above all by the FRG. These plans could further increase the military confrontation in Europe, and indicate a threat to the present balance of power, namely, the military strategic balance.

One has no idea why these plans are necessary. It is mostly said that the threat from the East must be repulsed. Yet, there has never been and is no such threat. Actually, this fact is acknowledged by almost the majority of responsible leaders in the West European countries.

[Sereny, Zalai] How do you regard the all-European process 10 years after Helsinki and preceding the meeting in Vienna this year?

[Zagladin] Actually, that is what we have been discussing. Perhaps I can add that the successful development in the all-European and the Helsinki processes is above all disturbed by forces that are not of European nature. One does not have to be a foreign political expert to notice that the United States does everything it can to slow down or hinder entirely relations between the Eastern and the Western part of Europe. For this reason they plan to take both political and economic measures. The COCOM restrictions aim not so much at hindering the transfer of military technologies to the East (anyway, our countries have proved that they are able to solve any kind of problem as regards national defence), but rather at slowing down and curbing commercial, economic, technological, and scientific exchange between the two parts of this continent.

Of course, for an improvement in the all-European process it is necessary to achieve some progress at the Stockholm and Vienna negotiations. Our delegations and those of a good number of neutral and nonaligned countries strongly promote this cause. However, a considerable portion of the road still lies ahead of us before we achieve real success.

[Sereny, Zalai] It appears that with 1985 the world has stopped slipping backward to a cold war. In your view, where is the world heading for at present?

[Zagladin] Only one thing can be said with certainty, namely, that the world is heading for an increasing and widely fought battle against the dangerous war, for a return to detente, and for a stable and peaceful coexistence. The United Nations has declared 1986 the year of peace. What we want is that this year -- and all the ones that follow -- indeed be the year of peace.

[Sereny, Zalai] Thank you for the interview.

PEREZ DE CUELLAR RECEIVES GORBACHEV'S PROPOSAL

LD161834 Moscow TASS in English 1739 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] New York, January 16 TASS -- The Soviet Union's first deputy permanent representative to the United Nations has met with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and handed over to him a personal message from General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, which sets forth the latest Soviet proposals on disarmament issues.

USSR AMBASSADOR TO UN DISCUSSES NICARAGUA

LD170028 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Havana, January 16 TASS -- The United Nations Organization should do by far more to ensure peace in Nicaragua, Oleg Troyanovskiy USSR's permanent representative to the U.N. said in an interview with the PRENSA LATINA agency.

Most of the countries condemn U.S. support for the Nicaraguan counter-revolution. Yet the USA has the right of veto, which prevents its stronger condemnation at the U.N. Security Council.

Oleg Troyanovskiy made these remarks, speaking with a PRENSA LATINA agency correspondent before his departure for New York after the completion of his brief visit to Havana, where he talked with Cuban officials. In the course of the meetings, the most important aspects of the present-day international situation were analysed, special attention being devoted to the evaluation of the 40th U.N. General Assembly session. The main objective of the U.N. is to preserve peace, Oleg Troyanovskiy said. We believe that the U.N. plays a tremendous role since it is an obstacle in the way of supporters of the arms race. The might of the socialist countries is another impediment and obstacle for the USA and its allies on the way of unleashing war, the Soviet diplomat said. He recalled a number of the Soviet Union's initiatives directed at peaceful uses of outer space.

The USSR permanent representative to the U.N. touched upon the issue of the enormous foreign debt of the developing countries. The statements on that issue by Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, chairman of the Cuban Council of State and prime minister of the republic have met with broad response at the U.N., he stressed.

ROMANIAN-BULGARIAN APPEAL SUBMITTED TO UN

LD152350 Moscow TASS in English 2035 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] New York, January 15 TASS -- A declaration-appeal by President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania and chairman of the State Council of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov calling for the establishment in the Balkans of a zone free from chemical weapons has been distributed here as a document of the U.N. General Assembly. The document points out that the implementation of the proposal would become an important step towards totally ridding Europe of this extremely dangerous type of armaments, would facilitate the efforts towards achieving its universal and total prohibition, and could help deepen confidence and expand cooperation between states.

NATO COMMANDER ON EUROPEAN ROLE IN SPACE ARMS

PM161125 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jan 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report under the general heading "Against 'Star Wars'"]

[Text] Washington, 15 Jan -- American General B. Rogers, supreme commander of NATO allied armed forces in Europe, has proposed that Western Europe "begin its own parallel program" for the creation of space arms. "The West European countries," Rogers stressed in an interview for the weekly U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, "must jointly organize their research potential and obtain U.S. consent to the exchange of information so that each side can use the other's results."

SCIENTISTS, CULTURAL WORKERS ATTEND PEACE CONGRESS

LD161245 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Warsaw, January 16 TASS -- A congress of scientists and cultural workers for a peaceful future of the planet opened here today.

The major forum, attended by some 350 prominent scientists and cultural workers from more than 50 countries, is the first of the events planned as part of the U.S.-proclaimed International Year of Peace.

The congress was opened by well-known Polish scientist Bogdan Sukhodolski. He said the meeting is a followup on the fine traditions of the anti-war movement, which were laid down in Wroclaw in 1948 by a congress of cultural workers for peace.

People of good will have now gathered in Warsaw, which lived through the tragedy of World War II and has since risen from the ashes, to raise their voice for what is the most valuable thing for all humanity, that is peace, he said.

SPAIN, ISRAEL ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

LD171444 Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Madrid, January 17 TASS -- Spain and Israel have established diplomatic relations, it was officially announced here today. It is also reported that the head of the Spanish Government will meet with Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres in the Hague next Sunday.

The Spanish Government adopted the decision despite protests by broad sections of the country's public, left-wing political parties and trade unions.

SHULTZ CRITICIZED FOR ADVOCATING 'MILITARY FORCE'

LD161608 Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Washington, January 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent V. Legantsev reports:

The Pentagon-sponsored conference on problems of "local conflicts" in Ft. McNair military base has closed. On its closing day, the conference was addressed by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

The whole of his speech reduced, as a matter of fact, to an attempt at furnishing a "theoretical basis" for the U.S. Administration's policy of brigandage against other countries and peoples, which is being waged under the slogan of "Struggle against terrorism". The head of the U.S. foreign policy department was trying in vain to substantiate the "need for" and "rightfulness" of the use of U.S. military power against the "terrorists", by which Washington implies the governments and national liberation movements, members of progressive organizations objectionable to the USA. George Shultz was openly speaking of the need to "use military force" to launch "local actions" in the name of the political and diplomatic objectives of the USA.

The U.S. secretary of state made it clear that any actions against the "terrorists" would be launched by the U.S. Administration arbitrarily, and above all, in the "American interests". The allies and friends may oppose our action or declare their objections, yet this should not have a decisive influence, he said. In substantiating his stand, Shultz gave an "at least" strange interpretation of international law. In his words, it would be "absurd" to claim that international laws prohibit the United States to capture "terrorists" in international waters or air space, attack them in the territory of other states or use force against the countries supporting them and giving them shelter. The conference has been also another fresh evidence of the Washington administration's hypocrisy. The condemnation of terrorism at various forums does not prevent the White House from giving every support to the terrorist gangs sowing death and destruction in Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Angola and other countries.

RENUNCIATION OF 'POLICY OF STRENGTH' CALLED FOR

LD162225 Moscow World Service in English 1810 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Viktor Ivanov commentary]

[Text] The American Secretary of State George Shultz has said in Washington that the United States believes it has the right to use military force and subversive actions to safeguard its interests in various parts of the world. Shortly before that, a similar view was voiced by Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. Our observer Viktor Ivanov comments:

Statements by high-ranking officials of the Washington administration clarify the so-called neoglobal policy it proclaimed recently. This policy is underlined by the right Washington has assumed arbitrarily to interfere militarily in regional conflicts on a pretext of fighting terrorism.

As George Shultz explained, neither international law nor allies' objections can block such interference. This neoglobal policy aims not only to justify United States police operations in any part of the world. It is also called upon to back up Washington's allegation that the persisting seats of tension and conflict rule out the possibility of measures to curb the arms race and achieve disarmament. As a result, the situation arises when the horse is put behind the cart and reasons are confused with consequences.

It's no secret that the arms race has been absorbing colossal funds that could be used to do away with hunger and diseases, poverty, and economic backwardness. And it's these factors that are rooted in many regional conflicts, since whole nations are forced to take up arms and fight for a better life, for social and political equality against a handful of rulers who have usurped their national wealth. Central America provides an example in this respect: The United States' stooges' rule there over many years has entailed a series of armed uprisings. The victory by the people of Nicaragua and actions by insurgents in El Salvador, Guatemala, and other countries have been used as a pretext for American interference that has created a conflict situation in the region.

Disarmament would not only release stupendous outlays that could meet the vital needs of millions of people, but it would help to ease tension and build up trust so necessary to settle world problems, regional conflicts included, politically.

The policy of strength should be renounced for the success of talks in Central America, for curbing Israeli expansion in the Middle East, and for stopping the bloodshed in southern Africa. The elimination of giant arsenals is crucial to bettering the world political climate and resolving conflicts on a mutually acceptable basis. And last but not least, we should not forget the nuclear ambitions of a number of states situated directly in the areas of tension. These ambitions are being pursued by South Africa, Pakistan, and Israel, and this poses a threat that regional conflicts can any moment turn into a nuclear one.

At the same time the full abolition of nuclear weapons in the world would make nuclear designs of irresponsible officials unfeasible. It's emphasized in the latest statement by the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev that the Soviet Union seeks to settle regional conflicts through collective efforts on a fair basis. Obviously, the achievement of disarmament would prove a decisive contribution to reaching this objective.

DEMICHEV RECEIVES USIA DIRECTOR IN MOSCOW

LD171020 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1000 GMT 17 Jan 86

["Visit: Visit to Moscow by the USIA Director" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jan (TASS) -- Charles Wick, director of the USIA, U.S. Information Agency, is on a visit to the Soviet Union. He was received by Petr Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and minister of culture of the USSR. Charles Wick had conversations at the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department, at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at the Ministry of Higher and Specialized Education of the USSR, and met with leaders of the Soviet mass information media. In the course of the conversations the possibilities for expanding Soviet-U.S. cooperation in the sphere of cultural and scientific exchange were discussed, as well as questions of information.

Leonid Ilyichev, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, gave an official luncheon in honor of the director of the U.S. Information Agency.

TENSIONS REMAIN HIGH IN MIDDLE EAST REGION

Shultz Demands Allies Join Sanctions

LD161224 Moscow TASS in English 1024 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Washington, January 16 TASS -- The USA continues exerting pressure upon its allies to make them join the Washington-launched massive anti-Libyan campaign.

In the course of a press conference, which was transmitted to western Europe by USIA "worldnet" channels, the U.S. secretary of state George Shultz demanded in no uncertain terms that the West Europeans should join American sanctions against Libya, groundlessly accusing that country of "supporting terrorism". He said it was necessary to take steps that would enable efficient solution of that problem. Meanwhile he did not conceal his irritation over the stand of those countries which are unwilling to break economic links with Libya by an order from Washington.

Whitehead To 'Share' Information

LD161342 Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Washington, January 16 TASS -- Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead has set out for a tour of a number of West European countries. The aim of the trip of the high-placed representative of the Department of State is to make West European countries join in American sanctions against Libya. As was reported by a White House representative, before his departure John Whitehead had a meeting with President Reagan. As an emissary of the President, John Whitehead will lend weight to U.S. consultations with the Europeans andCanadians, he stressed. From his words it was clear that the deputy secretary of state intended to "share" with the allies information on the so-called involvement of Libya in "international terrorism". The West European trip of the high-placed representative of the administration provides yet other evidence of the U.S. continuing attempts to arrange economic boycott of Libya, to try to stifle economically that sovereign Arab country whose policy Washington does not like.

'Dangerous Adventure' for U.S.

OW161438 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 15 Jan 86

Commentary by Boris Parkhomenko from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The U.S. continues to increase its military presence in the Mediterranean Sea. Our commentary:

[Parkhomenko] Hello, comrades. A group of U.S. warships has proceeded from the Indian Ocean through the Suez Canal to the east Mediterranean region. The aircraft carrier Coral Sea which is cruising there has been joined by the carrier Saratoga. There has been a corresponding increase in the number of escort battle and reconnaissance units. The aircraft carrier America is approaching. The cruiser Iowa is awaiting orders to proceed to sea in the direction of Libya's shores. The mechanical logic of war games dictates its laws. There has already been a first victim. A carrier-based F-18 fighter-bomber has crashed into the sea. The pilot has perished.

During these alarming days, both many politicians and those who are simply concerned about the dangerous development of events in the region ask the question: What force has moved the armada of U.S. warships and aircraft? Orders are, of course, issued by the White House and the Pentagon. The grounds and the nurturing medium for issuing such orders is the spirit of arrogance and permissiveness acquired by the higher U.S. Administration. The U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation agreement which is aimed against Arabs and aginst Libya is this time of considerable importance for correctly assessing the reasons that pushed Washington to an unprecedented demonstration of military might.

Realistically thinking, political leaders and the world community view U.S. aggressive actions as a dangerous advanture which may lead to a deep military-political crisis in the east Mediterranean region.

U.S. 'Waging War' on Arab World

PM161043 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Konstantin Geyvandov "Political Observer's Opinion": "Washington Versus the Arab World"]

[Text] It appears that the United States, buttressed by Tel Aviv, has decided to wage war on the entire Arab world, combining the role of prosecutor, judge, and executioner. Reporting the beginning of a "crusade" against Libya, President Reagan declared that the Libyan Government was a "regime outside the law" and that "Libya will be called to account." The well-known organization, the Heritage Foundation, whose words are virtually taken as an instruction in the Washington corridors of powers, has recommended that the U.S. Administration adopt a roughly similar line of conduct with regard to Syria. Only, initially it advises working through Israel. As a result, Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir declares that Syria is headed by an "extremist government" which poses an even greater danger than Libya; Prime Minister Peres adds that "there is now a real danger of war between Israel and Syria." At the same time Israel is stepping up the scale of its aggression in southern Lebanon and the world press is full of reports about Tel Aviv's intention to bomb the territory of North Yemen, the Sudan, and South Yemen.

Thus, what we have in the Near East is a systematic escalation of action by Washington and its "strategic ally" based on a new doctrine which the U.S. press has dubbed "neoglobalism." This doctrine bears a designation in the Pentagon's plans which directly reflects its nature: Namely, the doctrine of "low-intensity conflicts" in the Third World. "Low-intensity conflicts have," in the words of Pentagon General (U. Natting), "become the central strategic problem with which the United States now contends." Low-intensity conflicts cover a wide range of "activity," including "counterterrorist" strikes, Grenada-type "police" operations, and attempts with the participation of the United States to overthrow the governments of developing countries disagreeable to the United States. In other words, Washington, flouting every law, arrogates to itself the right to put other peoples in the dock and execute sentences at its own discretion.

The low-intensity conflict doctrine covers three categories of U.S. military operations, including the "active defense against terrorism" which Washington has now declared to constitute a military threat to the United States. It is no coincidence therefore, that President Reagan should proclaim that "the policy and actions of the Libyan Government pose a threat to U.S. security and foreign policy." This view of things, incidentally, was sanctioned in National Security Directive 138, issued by Reagan himself, in April 1984. It demands "active" military measures, including preemptive raids on presumed "terrorist" strongholds and punitive raids against countries suspected by the U.S. administration of giving refuge to "terrorists." This policy, in U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' words, assumes that U.S. "reaction should go beyond passive defense and envisage forms of active prevention and countermeasures." This is precisely what Libya, Syria, Lebanon, North Yemen, Sudan, and South Yemen are threatened with at present.

No sensible person is going to dispute that terrorism as such deserves every condemnation. And the world community of nations, including the Arab states, does not doubt the need to pool efforts to stop terrorist acts such as those which occurred at the Rome and Vienna airports and resulted in the senseless slaughter of people. The UN Security Council was recently guided by precisely those motives when it unanimously approved a resolution condemning terrorism and the taking of hostages.

This is countered by the strategic doctrine of "low-intensity conflicts," two other categories of which "theoretically" justify what the U.S. Administration is doing in Nicaragua, Angola, Afghanistan, and Cambodia. Its proponents also bear the real responsibility for the reign of terrorism in the world, since they have elevated it to the level of state policy. Washington, you see, is trying to use "low-intensity conflicts" to "legitimize" its flouting of the inalienable rights and interests of sovereign states and peoples, the fostering of an ideology of racial and national hatred, and a policy aimed at heightening world tension, whipping up the arms race, and fueling an atmosphere of war hysteria.

We are therefore, also witnessing today such paradoxes as armed intervention in Grenada and Lebanon being described as operations in "defense of the national security" of the United States and Israel. And resistance to foreign aggression on the part of those countries' peoples is termed terrorism. The bombing of sovereign Tunisia by the Israeli Air Force is proclaimed an "act of legitimate self-defense," whereas indignation and protests expressed against such "acts" are categorized as pandering to terrorism. The national liberation movements, including such members as the PLO, are classified as a "terrorist sect," while all manner of "contras" and dushmans operating at Washington's bidding against legitimate governments are declared to be "freedom fighters."

Nor is it surprising that the present decision by the U.S.-Israeli allies to wage war against the Arab world is being carried out beneath the banner of a "struggle against terrorism." The aims remain the same: removing -- by force, if necessary -- every obstacle to arranging affairs in the Near East on U.S. terms, in line with the U.S. Administration's hegemonist ambitions. After all, it is Libya, Syria, South Yemen, and the other Arab countries which -- contrary to U.S. and Israeli plans -- are seeking an all-embracing, just, and durable Near East settlement and support the PLO-headed struggle of the Palestinian for the restoration of their inalienable national rights, including the right to create their own independent state.

It is essential in this connection to draw attention to the following: In pursuing its anti-Libyan, anti-Arab plans the United States is pinning high hopes on creating disunity in the Arab world and further splitting its ranks. Thus, the already mentioned Heritage Foundation document laying out the program of subversive actions against Syria recommends that the U.S. Administration make extensive use to that end of the disagreements existing between Damascus, Cairo, Baghdad, and Amman. Therefore, I should like to think that the unanimity with which the Arab world has now risen in defense of Libya reflects a growing awareness of the fact that only by closing their ranks tightly are they capable of thwarting the plots of the U.S.-Israeli allies. Ultimately, the Americans themselves will realize that the "present struggle between Libya and the United States is a struggle for the heart of the Arab world.

The aggressive campaign currently being whipped up in the Mediterranean and Near East region by the United States and Israel poses a direct threat not only to the countries there, but to world peace and security. The "low-intensity conflicts" doctrine, Professor M. (Kler), military correspondent of the U.S. magazine NATION, correctly points out, "will result in a new round of military interventions in the Third World, just as inexorably as the doctrine of 'counterinsurgency action' involved us (that is to say, Americans) in Vietnamese affairs." It is quite clear that Washington continues to refuse to draw lessons from the past, disregarding present-day realities.

U.S. Sanctions Criticized

PM161210 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Jan 86 Second Edition p 3

[Observer V. Vinogradov "Military-Political Review": "Threat Over Libya"]

[Text] Let us begin with a few dates.

September 1975 -- the United States announced the restriction of industrial exports to Libya, and also of a number of "strategic" goods. August 1981 -- during exercises by the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Gulf of Sidra off the Libyan coast U.S. fighters downed two Libyan planes carrying out an ordinary patrol flight. July 1984 -- U.S. Navy planes repeatedly made incursions into airspace above Libyan territorial waters and made provocative flights to the north of the coastal cities of Al-Bayda, Benghazi, and Surt. November 1985 -- as THE WASHINGTON POST wrote, the CIA elaborated and the White House approved a plan preparing for a coup in Libya, envisaging the physical elimination of the leader of the Libyan revolution, M. al-Qadhdhafi.

This is by no means a complete record of U.S. blackmail and pressure against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. And on 7 January this year President Reagan stated that the Libyan Government's policy allegedly poses a 'threat to U.S. national security" and announcing a "state of emergency in the country to eliminate this threat," virtually totally banned economic and trade links between the United States and Libya. The U.S. President justified all these measures, introduced in violation of the UN Charter and bypassing the Security Council, with references to the "struggle against international terrorism," meaning the recent tragic events in Rome and Vienna airports where unknown persons committed terrorist acts, for which attempts are now being made to blame Libya. However, despite persistent requests by journalists, Reagan did not adduce any concrete evidence of Tripoli's involvement in these events. The White House incumbent tried to make up for the absence of facts with slander and abusive remarks about the Libyan leadership.

By all accounts, Washington realizes that the unilateral economic sanctions being undertaken against Libya will hardly be effective. It is no accident that Reagan stated at the same press conference: "If we do not achieve our goal now I promise that further steps will be taken."

What steps? It is not difficult to guess. Already on 3 January the U.S. aircraft carrier "Coral Sea" set course for Libyan shores accompanied by two cruisers, two destroyers, and two frigates. On board the aircraft carrier were four squadrons of F-17 Hornet fighters, a squadron of A-6 Corsair ground-attack aircraft, and several radioelectronic reconnaissance planes. At the same time a squadron of EA-6B Prowler electronic reconnaissance planes were transferred to the NATO Sigonella Air Force Base (Sicily) located in the central Mediterranean.

It is appropriate to observe here that in preparing incursions into any particular country, the Pentagon traditionally allocates an important role to radioelectronic reconnaissance planes. This can be explained primarily by the fact that they can create powerful electronic interference in the enemy's early warning systems and thereby ensure the surprise and secret nature of an attack.

What is more, yet another squadron of U.S. aircraft, this time F-11 fighter-bombers, has been transferred from across the ocean to the British Isles. The Pentagon does not conceal its intention of also using these combat machines, equipped for night flights at low altitudes and armed with bombs having a laser guidance system, to inflict strikes against Libya. Another 1,800 U.S. Marines have been urgently sent to the Mediterranean region in addition to those already there.

A U.S. Navy formation made up of the aircraft carrier "America," the modernized battleship "Iowa," and another eight ships is literally standing "under steam" in Norfolk (Virginia). They are ready to "dash" toward Libyan shores at the very first order.

And thus, the Pentagon has raised its militarist fist above the Mediterranean. It has everything ready: Options for attack on Libya have been elaborated, the main objectives for inflicting strikes have been defined (for which even B-52 strategic bombers may be used), and strike forces have been concentrated in their starting positions.

By virtue of its firm anti-imperialist stance and its refusal to accept the American-Israeli option for a Near East settlement, Libya has already long been the target for malicious attacks by the United States. But why at this particular moment has Washington stepped up its anti-Libyan campaign so much?

U.S. leaders' statements have recently been emphasizing particularly insistently that American policy is oriented in the long term toward "very diverse conflicts occupying an interim position between large-scale war and universal peace." At the same time, as U.S. Secretary of State Shultz explained in one of his speeches, Washington does not plan to "live under conditions of absolute peace." On the other hand, people in the U.S. capital have begun speaking of the concept of "new globalism" as a significant discovery of our days. In point of fact this concept is the same old strategy of total interference that has been tried and tested by imperialism. The "new globalism" is designed to confirm the old U.S. "right" to interfere in the affairs of soveriegn states on a worldwide scale, wage undeclared wars against them, conduct covert and overt subversive operations against them, and implement a policy of state terrorism.

Now the United States is in a hurry to try out the concept of "new globalism" in practice. Today the choice has fallen on Libya. Tomorrow Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Angola, or other states whose independent policies are not to Washington's liking could well find themselves in Libya's shoes.

Having conferred upon itself the functions of a world policeman, the United States would like to turn the policy of international tyranny and violence, dressed up as "new globalism," into the collective affair of the West. It has tried to draw its NATO partners into its anti-Libyan campaign. But here an unpleasant surprise awaited Washington, to put it bluntly: The FRG, Britain, Italy, and other members of the North Atlantic bloc have refused to support the U.S. sanctions against Libya.

No, not even the closest allies in NATO have risked besmirching themselves by participating in the American Administration's actions, which are as cynical as they are dangerous and which represent a policy of undisguised state terrorism. Disagreement with this policy of Washington's has been voiced publicly in almost all Western European capitals. And this is not to mention the Arab world. As a presentor on America's CBS TV was forced to admit through clenched teeth, "the U.S. threat to strike at Libya has made Arab countries rally in support of Tripoli."

So then, has Washington remained alone in its fanatical desire to deal with Libya? No, the United States has found an ally who is almost a greater champion of the use of military methods in international affairs than Washington itself. This is Zionist Israel, the U.S. partner in the anti-Arab "strategic alliance." Interviewed on ABC TV, Israeli Premier Peres bluntly stood up for joint actions with the United States against Libya. "When it is a question of collective measures," he declared, "we must act in concert." Indeed, as the saying goes, two boots make a pair. Netanyahu, Israeli permanent representative at the United Nations, also expressed himself with frank cynicism. At a meeting with journalists he shamelessly called for air raids on the territory of Arab states.

Flying into an anti-Libyan rage, Netanyahu declared: "We must not let ourselves be troubled by concepts of sovereignty."

According to the established custom in Tel Aviv, Israel does not confine itself to insolent statements alone. It has put its air force and navy in a state of enhanced combat readiness. And, as the press has reported, it has not only placed a squadron of combat aircraft at the disposal of the American command but has even transferred it to a U.S. aircraft carrier in the east Mediterranean. The Cairo newspaper AL-SHA'B is quite right when it writes that the reports of transfers of American forces and of Israel's militarist preparations give grounds for speaking with confidence of an armed operation being planned against Libya by the allies in the "strategic alliance."

So what, in fact, is happening? What are the ins and outs of all these sinister measures aimed at fueling tension in the Mediterranean, around which tens of hundreds of millions of people live? An excursion into the past, not even the so remote past, shows that Washington gets attacks of "regional aggressiveness" most frequently at times when preconditions have emerged in Soviet-U.S. relations for changes for the better and when the possibility has become apparent for reaching certain accords which could play a positive role in the matter of improving the international situation. These "attacks" are a consequence of the activation of influential forces in the United States which make it their task to prevent an improvement in Soviet-American relations. Frightened by the positive outcome of the Geneva summit meeting, these forces have launched an offensive against the accords reached there.

We know that the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting created favorable preconditions for also setting up a constructive dialogue on regional problems. The Soviet side clearly stated in Geneva that a new policy is needed, not least on questions of settling conflict situations, and that the United States must take all countries' national interests into account and not proclaim their territories spheres of its "vital interests."

As regards the current very dangerous development of events in the Mediterranean region, the Soviet Union is far from indifferent to it. The USSR is vitally interested in preserving peace in the Mediterranean, as, incidentally, in all other regions of our world. It should also be recalled that relations between the USSR and Libya are of a close, strong nature and are underpinned by long-standing traditions and by manifestations of profound liking and respect between the Soviet and Libyan peoples. Coming out in support of the Libyan people, the Soviet Union very resolutely condemns the hostile anti-Libyan campaign and the economic sanctions and demonstrative war preparations against Libya. Actions of this kind can only be regarded as posing a threat to peace and security not only in the Mediterranean but also outside it.

As the TASS statement published on 10 January emphasizes, Soviet leading circles expect that a healthy understanding of the existing realities will prevail in the United States, that it will seriously weigh the dangerous consequences which could result from the continuation of its policy toward the soveriegn Libyan state, and that it will not only display the restraint which the world's peoples expect from it but will also take in hand its presumptuous partner, Israel.

WEINBERGER SDI TALKS WITH BANGEMANN BEGIN

PM161117 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jan 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report under general heading "Against 'Star Wars'"]

[Text] Washington, 15 Jan -- Talks have begun here on the participation of West German companies in the U.S. "star wars" program between FRG Minister for Economics M. Bangemann and U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger and other representatives of the Reagan administration. Commenting on the talks, THE WASHINGTON TIMES newspaper notes that Washington needs an official agreement between the two countries as a sign of approval for Reagan's so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI) on the part of U.S. allies in Western Europe, where it has aroused protests.

U.S. FIRM HOPES TO EXPAND SOVIET COMPUTER TRADE

LD110023 Moscow TASS in English 1120 GMT 8 Jan 86

["Digital Corporation": "Prospects for Cooperation With Soviet Organisations" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 8 TASS -- "The outlook for cooperation is between the 'Digital Equipment Corporation' and Soviet organisations is promising," Clifton Clarke, one of the heads of this American company, told TASS.

"Digital" takes part in the meeting with Soviet specialists on application of computers in different economic and social spheres, namely agriculture, designing and building of new models of means of transportation, mathematical computations, and training of students of the higher and secondary school.

The firm has already supplied computers to the Soviet market, to the USSR Academy of Sciences in the first place, Clifton Clarke said. At present, "Digital" hopes to win a large Soviet order on the "Rainbow" personal computers for use in the secondary and higher education system of the USSR, Clifton Clarke noted.

CIVIL AVIATION OFFICIAL DETAILS JOINT AIR ACCORD

PM081203 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 2

[Telephone interview with V. Samorukov, member of the USSR Ministry of Civil Aviation Collegium, by V. Belikov: "Flights Will Be Resumed" -- date and place not given]

[Text] [Belikov] Sunday, 27 April has been designated as the day when regular passenger flights between our country and the United States will be resumed.

[Samorukov] "There is no doubt that this accord will promote the improvement in Soviet-U.S. relations which began with the Geneva meeting," V. Samorukov, member of the Ministry of Civil Aviation Collegium, who recently returned from across the ocean after the successful completion of talks with the airline Pan American, says. "Interest in direct air communication on the part of business people, tourist firms, and various social, cultural, and sports organizations in the United States is very great."

"We become convinced of this while business talks were in progress and the technical details were being clarified for organizing mutual flights, which were broken off, as is well-known, approximately 3 years ago on a unilateral basis by our U.S. partners."

[Belikov] How will air links now be implemented?

[Samorukov] Aeroflot planes will be able to make flights to New York and Washington, while U.S. planes will be able to fly to Moscow and Leningrad with a frequency of up to four flights a week. On our side the transatlantic run will be covered by long-haul IL-62 planes which, during the flight, will have to make a so-called technical landing to refuel in the Canadian airport of Gander.

After flying by airbus as far as Frankfurt-am-Main (FRG), Pan American passengers will then transfer to a Boeing-727 -- a plane for medium-length runs. Simultaneously with the opening up of air communication, the work of airline offices -- Aeroflot in New York and Washington, and Pan American in Moscow and Leningrad -- will be resumed.

[Belikov] April is the traditional month for the changeover to the summer schedule in international air transport. What other news will it bring?

[Samorukov] Now, at the very beginning of the year, I can only say that the frequency of flights by the airlines Air France and Japan's JAL along the trans-Siberian route from Western Europe to Moscow and Japan will increase. This is evidence of the growing popularity of the route which passes over our country and significantly shortens the air route from the shores of the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. Of other news -- nearer to spring!

COMMENTARY STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF TIES WITH PRC

OW161155 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Volskiy commentary]

[Text] The year 1985 has passed and left us with all kinds of food for thought. Light and darkness intertwined and actually coexisted in 1985. There was coexistence as well as confrontation, sometimes very fierce, between the two. What we mean here is confrontation between the two major tendencies in international life, that is, the tendency to stir up tension and intensify the danger of war and the tendency to consolidate peace and security and develop international cooperation.

Which tendency is now gaining the upper hand? A host of events which occurred in 1985 could not but arouse anxiety among the friends of peace. The U.S. imperialist-instigated arms race has become more dangerous, especially in view of Washington's program for the militarization of outer space in the form of its "star wars" plan. Unless this process is stopped, it will become an irreversible and uncontrollable trend ultimately leading us to a new world war involving nuclear weapons and all parts of the world, including the Far East region.

It was by no means accidental that a U.S. undersecretary of state called the Far East a close (?partner) of the United States last year. Currently the Pentagon is making all-out preparations for war in the Far East at a speed not less than it is going about it in the northern Atlantic. Moreover, the Washington authorities have formally announced a proposal to set up a Pacific community. Under the pretext of setting up this Pacific community, the United States wants to turn most East Asian countries into Washington bridgeheads and de facto new colonies of the monopolist cliques of the United States and Japan.

Obviously, the scheme surrounding the Pacific community proposal, including the various efforts to make China a member, is fraught with most dangerous consequences for the Chinese people. Among the consequences will be a threat to China's security. This is especially true when we take into consideration that, in a sense, the Pentagon considers the western Pacific and Far East as the second most likely battlefield, after Europe, in a new world war.

All this has prompted the people and public opinion of various countries in the Far East to more and more extensively take part in the struggle for halting the arms race and consolidating peace. In Asia and the Pacific region, the struggle is pursuing a more concrete and clearcut goal, that is, by drafting a common program for the security of Asia as advocated by the Soviet Union. The stand taken by the Soviet Union once again eloquently refutes the notorious view which equates the Soviet Union with the United States as sharing responsibility for creating international tension and the threat of war.

Needless to say, the principled and fundamental difference between the U.S. imperialist policy and the Soviet peace-loving socialist internationalist policy lies in their different attitudes toward problems not only in Asia but in the entire world. It is precisely the Soviet Union and the socialist community that form the political mainstay that is actively safeguarding and ensuring international security in the contemporary world. Whereas the United States seeks by hook and by crook to obtain military supremacy not only over the Soviet Union but throughout the world and to realize this scheme through militarization of outer space, the Soviet Union does not seek military supremacy but is fully determined not to let another country seize supremacy because it may undermine world peace.

The Soviet Union calls for military equilibrium, which for several decades has enabled people to prevent a global war. At the same time, we call for equilibrium at lower levels by halting the arms race and switching to disarmament. In general, we want a world without weapons and war. In the struggle to safeguard world peace, 1986 may become a very important year. On the eve of 1986, a new antiwar campaign has been whipped up in various parts of the world. The goals of the campaign are to stop the arms race on earth, ban the arms race in outer space, and stop nuclear tests. The people of any country can contribute to realizing these noble goals. The contributions of people of the Asian and Far East countries will be significant.

Due to the fault of the imperialists, the U.S. imperialists first of all, new dangers of war have continuously emerged in Asia and the Far East. Therefore, the call for unity in the struggle to safeguard peace is gathering momentum among the people of various countries in Asia, and their will to seek concerted action for the sake of security is becoming firmer. In this respect, Soviet-Chinese relations have become of growing significance. The Soviet Union has striven to greatly improve its relations with China. Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: Continuous progress in consolidating goodneighborly relations and cooperation between our two socialist countries accords with the long-term fundamental interests of the Soviet and Chinese peoples, as well as with the interests of the peace and security of Asia and the world as a whole.

SPORTS DELEGATION VISITS BEIJING; PROTOCOL SIGNED

LD162316 Moscow TASS in English 2239 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Beijing, January 16 TASS -- A Soviet delegation led by First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Sports Committee Nikolay Rusak has visited China at the invitation of its State Committee for Physical Culture and Sport.

On completion of the talks the two sides signed a protocol providing for continued development of links between the USSR and China in 1986 in the field of physical culture and sport.

Under the document, signed by Rusak and Deputy Chairman of the China's State Committee for Physical Culture and Sport He Zhenliang, Chinese women volleyball players, divers, gymnasts, acrobats, underwater swimmers, track-and-fielders, judo wrestlers, hockey and chess players will compete in meets in the Soviet Union. Soviet women volleyballers, tennis and table tennis players, archers, masters of modern gymnastics, badminton players and divers will visit the People's Republic of China.

The two sides will exchange delegations of sports officials, experts on sports medicine.

The Soviet delegation was received by chairman of the State Committee of China for Physical Culture and Sport Li Menghua. The sides exchanged views on questions related to the winter and summer Olympic Games, which showed the community of their approaches to the issues discussed.

FURTHER ON SHEVARDNADZE'S VISIT TO JAPAN

Talks With Abe, Reception

LD161755 Moscow TASS in English 1632 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Tokyo, January 16 TASS -- Talks were continued here today between Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and Shintaro Abe, minister of foreign affairs of Japan.

In the course of the talks Eduard Shevardnadze drew the attention of the Japanese side to the latest major foreign policy proposals, formulated by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his statement on January 15 on arms control and disarmament problems. It was pointed out that the concrete program presented in that statement really paved the way to the complete and universal elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000 if agreement was reached on the prohibition of the development, testing and deployment of space strike weapons. These and other new Soviet proposals are addressed to all the countries and peoples. And the sooner they are translated into practical deeds, the safer life in our world will become.

The sides had an extensive exchange of opinion on a broad range of international issues. Both were unanimous that it was necessary to take effective measures to lessen world tension and to strengthen security, inter alia, in Asia and the Pacific.

On the same day Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe gave a reception in honour of Eduard Shevardnadze. Addressing the audience, Shintaro Abe said that Japan was attaching special importance to the development of relations with her neighbour, the Soviet Union, and believed that those relations should be stable and rest on true mutual understanding. He gave a positive appraisal of the new Soviet initiative, presented in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement, for the removal of nuclear weapons, and called for concrete results at the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons.

Eduard Shevardnadze noted in his address the importance of the resumption of direct political dialogue between the USSR and Japan. I think, he said, that we are unanimous in our desire, despite the existing differences between us, to take a look from a higher vantage point at relationships between the Soviet Union and Japan and to raise them to a new level that befits our neighbouring countries. We also want a fresh friendly wind to fill the sails of our relationships, driving them in the direction of a safe and peaceful world for all.

Mikhail Gorbachev's statement which was released in Moscow today presents a bold and realistic alternative to the nuclear threat and to the development of space weapons, chemical agents and conventional weapons based on new physical principles and comparable in their deadly effects to nuclear weapons, an alternative which is basically new in conception and radical in measures it proposes.

The statement sets the truly great goal of reaching the third millennium without weapons of mass destruction. That goal is not only proclaimed: the programme suggested by us points to a clear and concrete way of accomplishing it. The Soviet Union stands for ridding the world of all weapons of mass destruction in three stages over the 15 years till the end of the 20th century.

At the first stage the nuclear weapons of the USSR and the USA capable of reaching each other's territories are to be reduced by half. That formula was accepted as the basis at the meeting of Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Reagan in Geneva for drafting an accord at the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons. The other nuclear powers are to join in this process at the second stage.

Nuclear weapons are to be eliminated universally and completely by the end of 1999. Herein lies the great historical importance of our initiative and its unique practical purpose.

A radical solution on medium-range systems is also envisioned. There must remain neither Soviet nor American medium-range missiles in Europe. Agreement to this effect could be reached in principle already now.

Discussing the Soviet Union's position on its missiles in the eastern part of the country, Eduard Shevardnadze noted that their level, as everyone knows, is being frozen and is made directly dependent on the military-strategic situation in that region. If the number of nuclear systems offset by our missiles is lessened, fewer Soviet missiles will remain in the East. In this way, he stressed, the very essence of our proposal indicates that there will be no nuclear weapons here as well.

Eduard Shevardnadze further pointed out that the Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions had been in effect since August 6, 1985. It expired on December 31 but, guiding itself by the desire to create favourable conditions for the fulfilment of the program of nuclear disarmament, our country decided to extend it to March 31. A new chance is being given to the United States in this way. We hope that it follows our example.

Mikhail Gorbachev stressed in his statement the importance of dependable verification of a mutual moratorium if it is achieved. Proposals on verification to the point of mutual on-site inspection deny the last arguments to those who would like to avoid such a moratorium.

Verification -- and dependable verification -- is viewed by us as the most important and essential element of measures to eliminate nuclear and other weapons. When verification with national technical facilities does not provide sufficient certainty, on-site inspection and forms of international control can be used comprehensively.

This initiative is another concrete manifestation of the humanism of the foreign policy of the Soviet state and confirmation of the fact that our country, advancing towards the 27th congress of its party, expresses the aspirations of the peoples and stands for peace.

The Soviet Union is motivated not only by its worry for the future. Memory of the past, and not only of our past, always has an effect on its actions. The Soviet people's aspirations for peace are not limited to their homeland. Our people paid too dear a price for their life of peace but the bells of Hiroshima are also tolling in their memory.

We hope, Eduard Shevardnadze said, that the Government of Japan will closely and without bias study the proposals put forward by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and make its contribution to the noble cause of removing nuclear and chemical weapons and of preventing the reemgence of space weapons. This position will meet the interests of primarily the Japanese people themselves and of their security.

We would like the place of your country in the struggle against the nuclear threat to be in accord with Japan's role and weight in the present-day world. Our talks have shown that the USSR and Japan, even despite their differences, could do a great deal for peace and for stronger international security by working together.

The reception passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Further on Talks

OW161221 Tokyo KYODO in English 1210 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO -- Foreign Ministers Shintaro Abe of Japan and Eduard Shevardnadze of the Soviet Union ended two days of talks here Thursday without a visible progress on a northern territorial dispute that has prevented the signing of a peace treaty between the two countries. The two foreign ministers, however, obviously reached agreement to improve bilateral relations in economic and other fields, that had soured following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 as well as over the territorial issue and other matters. They also agreed to maintain the momentum for their dialogue, with Abe proposing to visit Moscow within this year. Shevardnadze welcomed Abe's proposal, officials said.

Japanese officials said the two countries are starting work on a joint communique to be issued at the end of Shevardnadze's Japan trip, the first by a Soviet foreign minister in 10 years. The officials declined comment on the content of discussions about the territorial dispute over four northern islands under Soviet control since the closing days of World War II. They also gave no indication as to if and how the topic would be mentioned in the communique which will be released probably after Shevardnadze's talks Saturday morning with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Abe and Shevardnadze reiterated "the fundamental positions" of their countries on the thorny issue, a Foreign Ministry official said. In diplomatic jargon, this means Abe apparently sought anew the return of the four Soviet-controlled islands while Shevardnadze denied the issue's existence itself.

Abe conveyed an invitation to the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, to visit Japan at an early date. Shevardnadze made no remark about the invitation, a Japanese official said. Despite their apparent failure to dramatically iron out their fundamental differences over the territorial issue, Abe and Shevardnadze made headway in the economic and trade areas. Abe, while pointing out the difference in the economic structures of the two countries, proposed the upgrading of annual working-level trade consultations to a deputy ministers' level and the first upgraded talks be held in Moscow March 11-12. The Soviet foreign minister promptly nodded his consent, a Japanese participant in the Abe-Shevardnadze talks said.

The discussions between Shevardnadze and Abe lasted a total of nine hours Wednesday and Thursday, and at one time were anticipated to go on into Friday as Abe cancelled a press conference scheduled for 10 p.m. Thursday. Their talks were the first Japan-Soviet foreign ministerial consultations in eight years.

Abe also said that four joint Japan-Soviet chemical projects would lead to an expansion of trade between the two countries which sagged in 1983 and 1984, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said.

They said Shevardnadze expressed the hope that his country would reach basic agreement with a Japanese delegation on details of a Sakhalin natural gas project. Officials said the Japanese group will leave for the Soviet Union later this month to discuss the delivery schedules and prices. Abe told his Soviet guest that Tokyo has no plans to conclude a long-term economic cooperation pact with Moscow but that "case-by-case" economic cooperation is possible, according to Japanese officials.

The officials said Abe, saying a new Soviet proposal regarding the stalled fishery talks in Moscow is unacceptable, requested a boost in catch quotas, and a sharp reduction in prices of marine products hauled within the Soviet Union's 200-mile fishery zones. In return, officials said, Shevardnadze called on Japan to ease restriction on the operations of Soviet fishing vessels within Japanese economic waters. In the course of the second and third round of ministerial talks with the Soviet foreign minister, Abe relayed Japanese readiness to resume science and technology cooperati talks, which were suspended after the second consultations in 1979 shortly before the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

In the course of Thursday's consultations, the officials said, Abe urged the Soviet Union to fully look into the causes of the 1983 shooting down of a South Korean airliner by Soviet military aircraft over the Soviet island of Sakhalin. Shevardnadze said his country has nothing to discuss with Japan about the "unpleasant" episode that killed all 269 people on board.

The Soviet foreign minister pledged efforts to bring about signing of a cultural pact between the two countries at the time of Abe's trip to Moscow later this year, the Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said. Earlier in the day, Abe and Shevardnadze also discussed an Asian security conference proposal, made by Gorbachev last year, and other "confidence-building measures" to promote Japan-Soviet relations and ease regional and global tensions. Japanese officials said Shevardnadze also explained to Abe Gorbachev's three-stage nuclear disarmament proposal and expressed concern about the growing U.S. military influence in the Far East.

Agreement To Issue Communique

OW162313 Tokyo KYODO in English 1454 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Tokyo, Jan 16 KYODO -- Japan and the Soviet Union ended the first regular foreign ministers talks in eight years here Thursday with an agreement to issue a joint communique at the end of Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's current five-day visit. Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and Shevardnadze each instructed their aides after 10 hours of talks Wednesday and Thursday to begin work on a joint communique after a marathon dispute over four Soviet-controlled northern islands off Hokkaido, Japan's northermost main island.

A senior Japanese Foreign Ministry official strongly hinted that the foreign ministers may meet again before Shevardnadze's departure Sunday afternoon to agree on the projected communique itself.

The official said Japan expects the communique to follow the line of a 1973 joint communique issued at the end of then Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka's visit to Moscow over the territorial issue. That communique mentioned the existence of "unresolved" issues between Tokyo and Moscow. The Japanese Government maintains that the territorial question is one of the unresolved issues while the Kremlin subsequently argued the territorial question no longer exists.

Discussions about the territorial question consumed roughly two hours of the third round of talks between the two foreign ministers that lasted three hours and 30 minutes, according to the Foreign Ministry official who declined to be named.

Japan hopes to win the reversion of the four islands which would follow the conclusion of a peace treaty between the two neighboring countries.

Abe Expresses Satisfaction

OW170313 Tokyo KYODO in English 0309 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 17 KYODO -- Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe expressed satisfaction Friday over two days of talks with his Soviet opposite number, Eduard Shevardnadze, with the overall outcome hanging on the issue of a nagging territorial dispute between the countries.

Senior Foreign Ministry officials of both sides were working on the contents of the joint communique and Abe said he might meet with Shevardnadze again Friday in a bid to iron out differences. "Hopefully, the communique will be issued today (Friday)," a senior Foreign Ministry official said.

The two foreign ministers met for a total of 10 hours over three sessions Wednesday and Thursday, and the talks were marked by "a totally new style" on the part of the Soviet side, Abe said at a news conference Friday morning. He said the talks were conducted in an atmosphere "quite unlike the (Japanese-Soviet) meetings in the past."

Abe said he briefed Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone on the content of his talks with Shevardnadze at the end of a regular cabinet meeting Friday and Nakasone expressed approval over the talks. Abe said the territorial issue, which involves Japan's claim over a cluster of Soviet-occupied islands off northern Japan, remains the only issue to be worked out in the current Shevardnadze visit, which began last Wednesday. The Soviet minister is due to leave here Sunday.

The territorial dispute dominated the final session of the Abe-Shevardnadze talks Thursday, with both sides stating their country's basic position on the territorial issue.

Abe said the important thing is for the countries to sit down and talk. "Japan has its own position over the territorial issue, and of course the Soviets also have theirs," he said.

Despite an obvious disagreement over the territorial issue, Abe said his impression of the talks was that Moscow wants to improve relations with Japan and make a new start in Japan-Soviet relations.

Shevardnadze's itinerary Friday includes a sight-seeing trip to a traditional Japanese garden in Tokyo in the morning and an inspection tour of Nissan's highly automated auto plant outside of Tokyo.

Abe was also to accompany Shavardnadze and his wife, Nanuli, to a performance of a Kabuki play Friday evening.

Emergency Meeting With Abe

OW170909 Tokyo KYODO in English 0857 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 17 KYODO -- Foreign ministers Shintaro Abe of Japan and Eduard Shevardnadze of the Soviet Union held an emergency session Friday in an attempt to reach agreement on a joint communique, a high-ranking Foreign Ministry official revealed Friday. The extra meeting at the Iikura guesthouse came after more than 10 hours of consultations between the foreign ministers Wednesday and Thursday on a territorial dispute, arms control and disarmament and other international and bilateral matters.

The additional meeting, the senior Foreign Ministry official hinted, was focused on "the fundamental issue" of the dispute over Japanese claim to four Soviet-controlled northern islands.

"Both sides hope to reach agreement on a joint communique" chronicling Shevardnadze's current visit to Japan, the first by a Soviet foreign minister in 10 years, and his talks with Abe, the official said. He added that Japan expects the two sides to reach agreement on a joint communique and its issuance to take place by Saturday.

Asking that he not be identified by name, the ministry official also said both Abe and Shevardnadze want to settle the communique issue before the visiting foreign minister meets with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Saturday morning. Shevardnadze said in Moscow just before his departure for Tokyo that he would be carrying a letter from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to Nakasone.

Japanese and Soviet Foreign Ministry personnel raced against time in drawing up a draft communique but apparently stalled over the thorny territorial issue that has prevented the two countries from concluding a peace treaty. Abe and Shevardnadze decided to meet again at the heavily-guarded Iikura guesthouse before proceeding to the national theater to watch a Kabuki play.

Foreign Ministry officials said Japan is calling for a communique that would follow the line of a 1973 joint communique referring to "unresolved" issues between Tokyo and Moscow since the end of World War II.

Although at the time of then Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka's visit to Moscow the Soviets verbally admitted the territorial issue to be one of the unresolved questions, they refused to put it in writing, according to the Japanese officials. The Japanese Government considers the territorial dispute the key stumbling block to improving relations with the Soviet Union and has been seeking the return of Kunashiri, Etorofu, Habomai and Shikotan islands to Japanese control.

During a Friday morning news conference immediately after a cabinet session and a briefing to Nakasone on his talks with Shevardnadze, Foreign Minister Abe expressed the hope that a communique could be issued later in the day. The Abe-Shevardnadze talks Wednesday and Thursday marked the first regular ministerial consultations in eight years. Shevardnadze is the first Soviet foreign minister to visit Japan in a decade, following then Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko's trip to Tokyo in January 1976.

Shevardnadze and his journalist wife Nanuli visited Rikugien garden in the heart of Tokyo Friday morning. In the afternoon, the foreign minister made an inspection tour of Nissan motor's highly advanced auto plant in neighboring Saitama Prefecture.

Tours Automobile Plant

OW171053 Tokyo KYODO in English 1026 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 17 KYODO -- Soviet Foreign Minister Eudard Shevardnadze toured an automobile assembly plant on the outskirts of Tokyo Friday and pronounced himself "impressed" by the efficiency of the Japanese auto industry. Shevardnadze, currently on a five-day visit to Japan, was given a guided tour of Nissan Co.'s highly automated Zama plant and spent nearly an hour marvelling at how the robots weld and put together the different body parts of passenger cars.

"I was impressed by the advanced robotics and automation," Shevardnadze said through an interpreter following the inspection trip. Shavardnadze, accompanied by his wife Nanuli, made the trip to Zama Friday afternoon after visiting a traditional Japanese garden in Tokyo in the morning. "I want to buy a lot of cars," Shevardnadze said, delighting a host of top Nissan executives who showed up to welcome the Soviet dignitaries.

After a short briefing session, Nissan Vice President Shoichi Nakajima took the Soviet couple on a ride through the plant on a small electric-powered vehicle, with Shevardnadze looking intently on a host of robots at work. The Zama plant, one of the most automated car-assembly works in Japan, turned out more than 500,000 passenger cars last year.

DPRK MORATORIUM ON MILITARY MANEUVERS VIEWED

Chugrov

PM161116 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[S. Chugrov "International Commentary" under the "Topic of the Day" rubric: "Conditions for Dialogue Needed"]

[Text] Several decades have now passed since the Korean Peninsula was cut in two along the 38th parallel.

The demarcation line also clearly runs in the shape of a piece of black cord across the table at Panmunjom at which the Military Armistic Commission gathers for meetings and at which the other talks between the North and South of the country are held. Recently these contacts have been stepped up and the points of contact increased.

What have the sides done to ensure that the talks proceed in a normal, constructive atmosphere? The DPRK has called on the United States to limit military maneuvers on the Korean peninsula and to adopt additional security measures in the Panmunjom area. Moreover, for its part the DPRK Government has made the decision not to hold any major military maneuvers as of 1 February and to stop all military maneuvers during talks with South Korea. A DPRK Foreign Ministry statement stresses that exercises held by either of the parties to the dialogue can lead only to deepening mutual distrust and increasing military danger.

Let us recall that North-South talks were broken off for a long time last year as a result of the U.S.-South Korean "Team Spirit-85" military maneuvers. The exercises code-named "Team Spirit" were first introduced in 1976 and increase in scale each time.

South Korea has been essentially turned into a bridgehead for carrying out Washington's military strategic ambitions. Special troops are beginning to be stationed there in addition to the 40,000-strong corps of U.S. Armed Forces permanently based in the south of the peninsula. Although more than 1,000 U.S. nuclear combat charges are already in South Korea, the Pentagon plans to deploy Pershing and cruise missiles there. F-16 fighter-bombers, Cobra helicopters, Stinger antiaircraft missiles, and other equipment have begun arriving there for the U.S. units. Washington is also actively involving Seoul in preparations for the "star wars" program.

A Washington-Tokyo-Seoul "triangle" is gradually taking visible shape. Let us remember that South Korea and Japan are already linked with the United States through treaty obligations of a military nature. And now, without special ado, Washington is conducting a process aimed at closing the "triangle" by means of the Tokyo-Seoul line. The decision to hold joint exercises now between the Japanese Armed Forces and U.S. troops stationed in South Korea has marked a qualitatively new stage in creating this aggressive alliance. The Japanese press thinks that the holding of extensive three-sided maneuvers are on the agenda. The question arises whether productive dialogue between the north and south of the country is possible if the southern part of the peninsula is turned into a U.S. powder keg and the DPRK's borders ceaselessly echo to the sound of saber rattling?

Thus the DPRK advocates creating conditions favorable to dialogue, while the United States and the South Korean authorities are doing everything to aggravate tension. The two contrasting courses obviously pursue quite different aims. And these aims are not at all a matter of indifference for peace-loving states, because what is involved is not just the holding of successful dialogue between the north and south but the elimination of a dangerous center of tension in Asia and the Pacific.

Golts

PM161205 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jan 86 First Edition p 3

[A. Golts "Military-Political Review": "An Important and Crucial Step"]

[Text] The other day the DPRK Government announced its decision not to hold major military maneuvers from 1 February this year, and to renounce the holding of any military exercises during talks between North and South.

This decision once again convincingly demonstrates the DPRK's desire for a lessening of tension on the peninsula and the advancement of dialogue between Pyongyang and Seoul.

It should be recalled that for more than 35 years Korea has been a region of unremitting confrontation, through the fault of U.S. imperialism. A more than 40,000-strong U.S. military contingent is deployed in South Korea, equipped with the most sophisticated weapons, above all nuclear weapons.

It is quite natural that in these conditions any intensification of military activeness leads to still greater tension. And by all appearances U.S. militarist circles have an interest in such tension.

That is why for nearly the whole of last year various kinds of militarist rehearsals were being carried out in southern Korea by the Pentagon and the South Korean army. Exercises by reservists were succeeded by maneuvers of units of the U.S. 7th Light Infantry Division, which forms part of the Rapid Deployment Forces. Hardly had these exercises finished when air and naval maneuvers began.

Particular mention whould be made of the large-scale military provocation which the U.S.-South Korean 'Team Spirit' maneuvers turn into every year. In recent years more than 200,000 officers and men have taken part, along with major air and naval forces. Team Spirit is basically a rehearsal for large-scale aggression. It is no accident that during these maneuvers provocations on the DPRK's borders become more frequent.

It must also be noted that such maneuvers seriously complicate North-South talks. Indeed, how is it possible to hold talks and discuss complex problems of mutual relations to the thunder of artillery canonades and the roar of military aircraft engines? Suffice it to recall that last year the talks were broken off for a long time precisely because of the 'Team Spirit' maneuvers. And this at a time when it is obvious to everyone that dialogue meets the vital aspirations of all the Korean people.

Thus the DPRK's important new initiative is a good example for the other sides. The people of Korea and the international public expect positive response from Washington and the South Korean authorities. The more so since the PRK Government has declared its willingness to hold talks concerning this initiative. The reaction of the U.S. and South Korean leaders to this goodwill step will make it possible to judge their readiness not in words, but in deeds to promote the creation of a climate of peace in the Korean Peninsula.

Barakhta

PM161220 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Boris Barakhta "Commentator's Column": "In a Spirit of Goodwill"]

[Text] The DPRK Government, consistently adopting positions of peace and demonstrating a sincere desire to make its own contribution to the cause of defusing the explosive atmosphere on the Korean Peninsula, has again put forward a constructive proposal to Seoul and Washington. Showing goodwill and concern for the fate of peace in the region, the DPRK has unilaterally decided not to hold major military maneuvers on the republic's territory starting this February.

This initiative is a prominent step in Pyongyang's peace aspirations and is the continuation of its peace-loving foreign policy course. As is well known, the planet's public -- and particularly the public of the Asia-Pacific region -- made a high assessment of the DPRK's recent proposals aimed at turning the Korean Peninsula into a nuclear-free zone and securing the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea. They envisage replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement and ultimately achieving the peaceful unification of the country.

The DPRK's positive initiatives are in line with the fraternal socialist countries' purposeful efforts to strengthen peace and the peoples' security and to remove the threat of a nuclear catastrophe. They are directly linked with the Soviet proposal on a comprehensive approach to security problems in Asia, and their implementation would undoubtedly have a favorable influence on the political climate not only in the Far East but worldwide.

The urgency of the peace-loving steps of the government of People's Korea is obvious and understood by the broad peace-loving international public. Recent years in the Asia-Pacific region have been marked by a notable intensification of the military activeness of U.S. imperialism and certain countries linked to it. The buildup of militarist muscles is continuing in the region in direct proximity to the borders of the Soviet Union, the DPRK, and the other socialist states of Asia. Military cooperation between Washington, Tokyo, and Seoul is expanding and strengthening. Through the efforts of the Pentagon strategists the south of the Korean Peninsula has been turned into an entire complex of U.S. nuclear bases and permanent source of tension in the Far East. The aim of the inflammatory U.S. course in the region is to create here along with West Europe a new front in the struggle against the forces of peace and progress. It is obvious that the establishment of relations of mutual understanding and good-neighborliness in the Far East does not lie through cranking up the arms race and stoking mistrust and suspicion. No mountains of weapons can replace a constructive exchange of opinions on all problems around the negotiating table. The comprehensive DPRK proposals create a good basis for initiating such an exchange.

STUDENT UNREST, DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUE IN ROK

OW161310 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1145 GMT 15 Jan 86

[From the "World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] The South Korean foreign minister has demanded that the leadership of the opposition New Korea Democratic Party sever its relations with the Japan Socialist Party. There is only one reason for the ultimatum. The Japanese socialists are denouncing the mass repressions which the Chon Tu-hwan dictatorship is using to try to suppress the movement for democracy and are calling for the removal of the U.S. occupation forces and U.S. nuclear weapons from the southern part of the Korean Peninsula. We have often shown these scenes in our programs. [video shows demonstrators clashing with police]

Student unrest continues in South Korean cities. The youth movement is supported by democratic sections of the population. There has been an increase in demonstrations by farmers who are dissatisfied with the government's economic policy in the villages, police surveillance, and arbitrary rule. The South Koreans are protesting against repressions by the dictatorial regime. They demand revision of the Constitution to provide for direct presidential elections on the basis of universal balloting instead of the present electoral college system.

I remind you that General Chon Tu-hwan grabbed power in August 1980. It is true, he promises to retire in 1988 when his presidential term expires. But for the time being he is making no concessions at all. Students storm and seize the building of the ruling party center in Seoul, raid government departments and various U.S. institutions. In retaliation Chon Tu-hwan sends police against them. As a result, Seoul looks like a garrison city, writes the Western press. Washington leaders speak with tender emotion about democracy in the country and at the same time seem to forget that over 2,000 student activists have been arrested in South Korea during the year. They were jeered at and given stern sentences, up to five years in prison for violating the law on national security and for pro-communist tendencies. The battles in the streets sometimes move to the National Assembly building. Not so long ago a very real scrap took place in Parliament between the dictator's supporters and oppositionists. It goes without saying that the situation is inflamed in the country.

FURTHER ON USSR-MONGOLIAN TREATY ANNIVERSARY

Vorotnikov Attends Meeting

LD161419 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Mark Treaty Anniversary"]

[Text] Darhan, Erdenet, and many other Mongolian cities erected, like hundreds of industrial projects, with the aid of the USSR, are called symbols of the steadily strengthening friendship of the two countries' peoples. The CPSU and the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP], the Soviet and Mongolian peoples have always and in everything lived by the same thoughts and helped each other like brothers on the battlefield and in peaceful labor.

This was noted at the ceremonial meeting of representatives of the Moscow public to mark the 40th anniversary of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, amd Mutual Assistance between the USSR and the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR]. It was held 14 January in the House of Unions Hall of Columns.

In the presidium were V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; S. Mukashev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Soviet section of the Soviet-Mongolian Intergovernmental Commission for economic and scientific-technical cooperation; leaders of a number of ministries and departments, representatives of party, Soviet, and public organizations, and military leaders. Also present was a delegation from the federation of Mongolian peace and friendship organizations headed by (Ch. Sereter), MPR state committee chairman.

V.S. Murakhovskiy's report and the speeches stressed that the celebration of this notable date is taking place on the eve of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th MPRP Congress, preparation for which graphically confirms the indestructibility of the ideological-political union of our parties and countries. In resolving the tasks of accelerating their countries' socioeconomic development, our peoples are constantly developing close collaboration, which has a firm treaty basis. Our relations are a model for relations of the socialist type, imbued with common interest in each other's successes and unity of action in the struggle for peace, international security, and social progress. It was noted that Mongolia is successfully resolving the program tasks of the country's socialist industrialization. In the past 25 years the share of industry in the production of the national income has increased rapidly, exceeding 30 percent. Soviet-Mongolian cooperation is an important element in the system of multifaceted, equal ties between the socialist states.

T. Gurbadam, MPR ambassador to the USSR, has stated that the Mongolian people rightly link their achievements with the combat alliance and truly fraternal friendship with the great Soviet people and with their selfless aid and support. In Mongolia there is not a single sector of the national economy in which the life-giving fruit of our cooperation have not been felt. In recent years hundreds of important national economic projects have been constructed or modernized with the USSR's assistance. The further improvement of the entire complex of our cooperation and the enhancement of its effectiveness are now being implemented increasingly successfully. The diplomat stressed that the treaty, pervaded with a spirit of love of peace and internationalism, is an exceptionally important factor in safeguarding the MPR's security and serve the cause of the consolidation of the socialist countries' unity and cohesion.

In accordance with the document the USSR and Mongolia are making vigorous, purposeful efforts to strengthen peace and stability in Asia and throughout the world. In this connection, the ambassador said, we attach great importance to E.A. Shevardnadze's forthcoming official friendly visit to the MPR.

Soviet Leaders' Message

PM160916 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jan 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the People's Great Hural Presidium;

Comrade Dumaagiyn Sodnom, chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers.

Dear Comrades!

Th CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the entire Soviet people send cordial congratulations and best wishes to the MPRP Central Committee, the People's Great Hural Presidium, the Mongolian Council of Ministers, and the entire fraternal Mongolian people on the 40th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and the Mongolian People's Republic.

Our states are marking this glorious jubilee of fraternal friendship bequeathed to us by the great Lenin and the leader of the Mongolian revolution Suhe Baatar having scaled new heights. Soviet people, approaching the 27th CPSU Congress with creative enthusiasm, are sincerely pleased that Mongolia's working people, under the leadership of the MPRP, are successfully tackling tasks in the creation of the material and technical base of socialism, are persistently seeking to accelerate the socioeconomic progress of their motherland, and are preparing to greet the 19th MPRP Congress in a worthy fashion.

Close and multifaceted cooperation between the USSR and Mongolia is steadily developing and increasing on the sound treaty basis laid down in 1946 and further developed in the new treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance signed 15 January 1966.

The past 4 decades are vivid evidence of the tremendous vitality of the treaty which has completely withstood the test of time. During this time relations between the Soviet Union and Mongolia, which are a practical embodiment of the principles of socialist internationalism, have been enriched by new content and have acquired the character of large-scale cooperation which now encompasses all the main spheres of the two countries' social life. Our cooperation received a new impetus as a result of the Soviet-Mongolian summit in August 1985 and the signing of the long-term program for the Development of Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between the Soviet Union and Mongolia through the year 2000. The implementation of this program will enable us to pool our efforts and resources still more effectively with the aim of building up the economic potential and improving the well-being of the working people, which is in keeping with both the national and the international tasks of the two countries' peoples.

At the international level Soviet-Mongolian cooperation represents an important link in the system of multilateral ties between socialist states. Our treaty of alliance serves the interests of the entire socialist community and has been and remains a significant factor in the struggle for lasting peace and stability in the Far East and the Asian and Pacific region.

True to the spirit and the letter of the treaty of alliance, the CPSU and the Soviet State will continue to do everything to ensure that the fraternal ties between the peoples of the USSR and Mongolia continue invariably to strengthen and deepen. We wholeheartedly wish you, dear comrades, the communists, and all the Mongolian working people new successes and achievements in building a socialist society.

Long live eternal and indestructible friendship between the Soviet Union and the Mongolian People's Republic!

The CPSU Central Committee;

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium;

The USSR Council of Ministers.

Ragchaa Discusses USSR Ties

PM160940 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[Article by T. Ragchaa, member of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers: "Always in Single Formation"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, January -- Today, 15 January, the Mongolian and Soviet peoples are marking a great event -- the 40th anniversary of the treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual aid between the USSR and Mongolia. This important document is the firm basis for the development of our mutually advantageous relations and a reliable guarantee of new successes in building socialism on Mongolian soil.

Each year in the last 40 has been a notable stage in the steady upsurge of the economy and culture of People's Mongolia. The year which has recently ended -- 1985 -- was also a vivid example of the growing efficiency of social production. Thus, the annual growth of agricultural and industrial output was 12.5 and 6.6 percent respectively. In all spheres of the national economy advanced technology was introduced, new types of articles were assimilated, the population's monetary income grew noticeably, and there were improvements in the provision of well-appointed housing for working people and the consumer goods trade.

Our people rightly link all their achievements with traditional Mongolian-Soviet friendship. V.I. Lenin, the leader of the world proletariat, and D. Suke Baatar, the leader of the Mongolian revolution, were at its roots and it is based on the adamantine principles of Marxism-Leninism. From the outset relations between the two countries have served as graphic evidence of genuine equal rights, fraternal mutual aid, and the immense vital force of the principles of socialist internationalism.

The recent meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian Great People's Hural Presidium, was an important landmark in the all-around strengthening and development of Mongolian-Soviet friendship. The meeting was held in an atmosphere of brotherhood and complete mutual understanding and again demonstrated the complete unity of the views and positions of our two parties and countries on all the questions discussed. The meeting will promote the further activation of collaboration between the CPSU and the MPRP in the interests of peace and socialism.

The "Long-Term Program for the Development of Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation Between the USSR and Mongolia for the Period Through the Year 2000" defines the large-scale tasks of boosting the entire range of Mongolian-Soviet relations to a higher level. It opens up broad opportunities for improving the effectiveness of existing ties and for promoting the emergence of new and even more fruitful ties. As was noted in the MPRP Central Committee resolution on the results of the Mongolian-Soviet summit, the long-term program is of great political importance and its successful implementation will be important evidence of the boundless potential and advantages of socialism.

The present-day realities of our cooperation inspire firm confidence in the implementation of the outlined plans. In the last 25 years alone cooperation between the USSR and Mongolia has accounted for the construction of more than 600 national economic projects, including 150 industrial enterprises. The fuel and energy, mining, light, food, metalworking, and other industrial sectors, the construction industry, transport, and communications have been created and powerfully developed. Agriculture's material and technical base has been considerably strengthened.

Production of global social product in Mongolia has almost quadrupled in comparison with 1960 and national income has almost tripled. The national economy's fixed assets and gross industrial output have grown by 750 percent and 840 percent respectively over this period. As much industrial output is produced in a single week today as was produced in the whole of 1940.

Joint Mongolian-Soviet enterprises -- a fundamentally new form of cooperation based on interstate ownership of the means of production -- are of considerable interest for the entire socialist community. The experience of the international collectives at the Ulaanbaatar railroad, the "Mongolsovtsvetmet" association, and the "Erdenet" mining and enrichment combine graphically confirms the high economic effectiveness of economic integration in strengthening socialism's material and technical base in Mongolia and increasing our republic's export potential. Other associations -- the "Mongolbolgarmetall" and "Mongolchekhoslovakmetall" associations -- have recently been set up along the lines of these international economic complexes.

Joint enterprises have become a remarkable school for training national cadres. For instance, the first international teams and "(nayramdal)-druzhba" teams -- in which specialists from the two countries work on equal conditions and to unified orders and resolve common tasks -- emerged for the first time in Erdenet. This undertaking has been extensively disseminated in the country and there are now more than 900 such collectives.

The Mongolian people are profoundly grateful to the envoys from the Land of the Soviets who are working in our republic and passing on their experience and knowledge to their Mongolian friends. The high returns on their work are convincingly evidenced by the fact that the number of Soviet specialists at enterprises and on farms is constantly falling and national cadres are coming in to replace them. For instance, over the last decade the number of Soviet citizens working in technical collaboration construction trusts has approximately halved while the amount of work carried out has tripled in this period. The Ulaanbaatar railroad was originally operated mainly by Soviet engineers and workers, but they now account for only 1.5 percent of the thousands-strong collective.

An important role is played by the direct ties established between Mongolian aymags and Soviet republics and oblasts and between cities, ministries, and departmental, economic, scientific, and cultural institutions in the two countries. Direct business contacts make it possible to sharply accelerate the introduction of front-ranking experience and to implement measures aimed at increasing output, saving material resources, and improving production techniques.

Thus, a state farm for raising fine-wooled sheep has been created in the eastern aymag following the example of Chita people, and the experience of the system of centralized control of passenger transport traffic that is operating in Irkutsk is being successfully exploited in Ulaanbaatar. In turn a number of Transbaykal, Buryat, and Tuva farms are applying the Mongolian experience of pasturing animals and looking after their young.

It should be noted that Mongolian-Soviet relations have always been built on the principles of equality and mutual advantage. This can be judged from the continuous expansion of trade between our countries. The immense aid that the USSR gives our country in developing industry and agriculture is well known. Machines, equipment, and various consumer goods are sent to Mongolia from the Land of the Soviets. In turn over the last 5-year plan total Mongolian exports to the Soviet Union have almost doubled and have reached 1.6 billion tugriks. Stockraising output, light industry articles, copper and molybdenum concentrate, fluorspar, and recently coal and plant products are shipped to the Soviet Union. The scale of border trade is growing and its structure is improving.

Ties between the MPRP and the CPSU are strengthening and being filled with new content. Close interparty cooperation helps to more fully assimilate the experience of Soviet Communists and makes it possible to constantly improve the vanguard role of party members in production and sociopolitical life and to improve the effectiveness of organizational and ideological education work. In particular, open letter days and other mass events along the lines of our Soviet friends' practice have become very popular among the Mongolian population.

Our parties act cohesively in the international arena too. The MPRP and the republic's government wholly and fully support the peace-loving efforts of the CPSU and the Soviet State aimed at strengthening universal peace and collective security and against the nuclear arms race. Together with the socialist countries and all the planet's progressive peoples, Mongolia actively strives to remove the threat of war from mankind's life and to create an atmosphere of trust on the Asian Continent.

The MPRP and our entire people see the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva as a major event of world importance that has initiated an important political dialogue. The position of the fraternal community countries is united, they pursue a common agreed line on questions of the struggle to ease international tension.

Mongolia's working people are preparing for two major events -- the forthcoming 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th MPRP Congress. Socialist competition to worthily greet the supreme forums of our parties has been launched throughout the country and a mass review of production reserves and additional sources of savings is underway. The movement to strengthen discipline and organization everywhere has been stepped up and the forms and methods of the work of party, state, and social organizations are being improved.

The recent MPRP Central Committee plenum and Mongolian Great People's Hural session examined and ratified the plans for the development of the republic's national economy in 1986. It was noted that the further growth of social production and the boosting of the level of the people's prosperity are closely linked with strengthening Mongolian-Soviet cooperation, which is a decisive factor in building up economic potential and implementing social transformations in the country.

Not for nothing is our friendship called everlasting and indissoluble. The Mongolian people consider it to be their greatest revolutionary gain and they are fully resolved to always march in single formation with their Soviet brothers and strive for more and more victories along this path.

SOVIET-MONGOLIAN COOPERATION PACT DETAILED

PM171033 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Strengthening Ties"]

[Text] Talks between government delegations of the Soviet Union and Mongolia ended in Moscow 15 January with the signing of an agreement on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the USSR and Mongolia for 1986-1990.

Under the agreement the volume of capital construction in Mongolia will increase. Agricultural, industrial, housing, municipal, and other projects will be built and the joint construction of a number of comprehensive projects is envisaged. A broad program is outlined for cooperation in increasing consumer goods production in Mongolia through the expansion of existing enterprises for the processing of raw livestock products and the construction of new ones. It is planned to expand the capacities of the [illegible]denet and Mongolsovtsvetmet joint Soviet-Mongolian enterprises.

An important place is assigned to the implementation of measures associated with improving social and living conditions for the Mongolian population. Assistance will continue in the training and improvement of qualifications of Mongolian national cadres through the strengthening of the material and technical base of Mongolian educational institutions and the training of Mongolian citizens at educational institutions, enterprises, and organizations in the USSR.

GANDHI TERMS GORBACHEV ARMS STATEMENT 'ENCOURAGING'

LD161836 Moscow TASS in English 1742 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, January 16 TASS -- The latest statement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev is very encouraging. "We wholeheartedly hope that the other side will come up with just as positive a response to these proposals," India's Prime Minister Rajiv Ghandhi has declared.

Making a speech at the association of Indian diplomats here today, he stressed that the Soviet union's programme is an alternative to the armament of space. It explores real ways for ridding the earth of nuclear weapons.

Every person on earth should be responsible for the shaping of such public opinion that would not tolerate the presence of nuclear weapons on the planet, the Indian prime minister stressed.

MALTSEV DELIVERS GORBACHEV MESSAGE TO GANDHI

LD161552 Moscow TASS in English 1459 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, January 16 TASS -- Prime Minister Rajiv Ghandhi of India received Viktor Maltsev, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R., who is now staying here.

Viktor Maltsev handed over to Rajib Gandhi a personal message from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

ENVOY EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR LIBYA IN TEHRAN MEETING

LD141118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Boldyrev, the Soviet ambassador in Tehran, during a meeting yesterday afternoon with Besharati, our country's deputy foreign minister, while condemning America's recent threats against Libya, declared his country's support for Libya.

Then, while describing the stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran towards America's terrorist threats against Libya, Besharati stressed Iran's all-around support for revolutionary Libya. He called America's anger a result of imperialist fear concerning the formation of the strategic axis of revolutionary countries in the region, in which Libya plays a serious role.

PDPA OFFICIAL ADMITS TO WEAK 'SOCIAL BASE'

PM152001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Unnamed own correspondent dispatch: "Reports From Afghanistan"]

[Text] Kabul, 15 Jan -- New Tasks

The first all-Afghan seminar-conference of ideological workers began yesterday in the DRA's capital.

Members of the PDPA Central Committee, ministers, party propagandists conducting agitation work in villages, border regions, and among tribes, armed forces political workers, youth and women's organization activitists, and mass media officials gathered in Kabul. A report was delivered by M. Baryalay, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. He cited facts attesting to the irreversibility of the revolutionary process in the DRA. The effectiveness of combat actions by the armed forces, which are rebuffing the dushmans in the course of the undeclared war unleashed by imperialism against the new Afghanistan, has improved. The prerevolutionary level of economic development has been surpassed. PDPA ranks are growing steadily: It now has 145,000 party members and candidate members. A system of people's power is being consistently created in the country. the successes of the people's power rely on the foundation of Soviet-Afghan friendship.

In assessing the situation in the country as a whole, however, one cannot fail to see that, as was noted at the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum, a certain portion of the population has still not felt the real fruits of the revolution, and its social base is expanding only slowly. The report set the task of ensuring the unity of the party's educational and organizational work and making more effective use of the entire range of methods for influencing the masses. The core of all political educational work to expand and strengthen the social base of the revolutionary power must be the molding of the working people's political consciousness.

Cooperation Strengthening

The DRA public highly assesses Soviet-Afghan cooperation in various spheres; the economy, health care, education, trade, and culture.

"Any project financed or built in the DRA with the help of the friendly country -- the Soviet Union," the influential newspaper KABUL NEW TIMES writes, "opens up new possibilities for further strengthening the traditional good and fraternal relations between the two countries."

The newspaper goes on to note that cooperation between the two countries has strengthened considerably since the 1978 April revolution in Afghanistan. Over 30 national economic projects have been commissioned on Afghan soil with Soviet aid in the years since the revolution and another 90 are at the construction stage. In all, the newspaper points out, the Soviet Union has helped to build more than 200 national economic projects. The Soviet Union has helped Afghanistan to lay the foundations of a chemical and metallurgical industry. Over 60 percent of the country's factory output, 75 percent of state sector industrial output, and two-thirds of all electricity are produced at sites built with Soviet aid.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA DESCRIBES FIGHTING EPISODE IN DRA

PM161118 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jan 86 Second Edition p 3

[Correspondent Lieutenant Colonel V. Skrizhalin article under the rubric "Place of Feat -- Afghanistan": "They Call the Road Dangerous..."; the article is accompanied by three photographs]

[Text] It is not because of the dizzy descents, the exhausting climbs, or the spiraling hairpin turns that makes people call this road dangerous. The dushmans have made it so. The cliffs, the ravines, and, in the valleys, the so-called "green zones" enable the rebels to steal up to the road like robbers and perfidiously open fire like brigands in an ambush on the convoys transporting freight to one of Afghanistan's remotest provinces. That is why the trucks in the convoys alternate with tanks and armored personnel carriers and why combat helicopters constantly circle above the road itself.

And, perhaps, it is no accident that Ensign Sergey Chayka (in the center of the photograph below), Sergeant Sergey Mikhaylov (extreme left), and Junior Sergeant Aleksandr Akimov (second from right), whom the camera caught among their fellow servicemen right after they were presented with Orders of the Red Star, remember precisly this road [the photograph depicts five servicemen with snow-covered mountains in the distance].

One day the local authorities asked the Soviet command to help deliver food, construction materials, teaching aids, and medical supplies to the province. As always, it did not refuse....

Senior Lieutenant A. Pilnikov, Ensigns D. Samsonov and S. Chayka, Sgt S. Mikhaylov, Junior Sergeants V. Fedorov and A. Akimov, and Private R. Khismatulayev were the first to begin fulfilling the set task -- they went off to reconnoiter the route.

....The "green zone" greeted the reconnaissance scouts with machinegun fire. Only speed could help them to escape the firing. Sgt Mikhaylov pressed the gas pedal right down to the floor. But bursts of fire still hit the wheels.... A pothole in the tarmac -- and the vehicle flew "head over heels" into the ditch, turned over, and landed "on its feet." But it was unable to go any further.

"Take cover, follow me!" -- the officer ordered. The scouts followed Sr Lt A. Pilnikov in leaping over the adobe wall surrounding a house abandoned by its owners.

Sgt V. Fedorov tried to contact his men in the hope of getting assistance. But the radio set had been hit by a bullet and was barely working, only able to receive.

"Even though, surrounded on all sides, we were without means of communication, and even though our ammunition was inexorably running out, however hard we endeavored to save it, it still did not occur to anyone during those minutes that this was our last battle," Pilnikov recalled later.

The dushmans threw several rings around the wall, did not spare cartridges and grenades, and were drawing closer and closer....

A truck with new reinforcements for the gang stopped a short distance away. Behind it there was a Mercedes minibus. It was the latter that caught Sgt S. Mikhaylov's attention....

Mikhaylov, of short stature, covered the 300 meters separating the encircled reconnaissance scouts from the minibus by making his way along an irrigation ditch, unnoticed by the dushmans. The driver of the Mercedes did not have time to offer resistance. A short burst of fire, and Sergey was behind the wheel....

"The dushmans surrounding us lost their heads when the minibus suddenly moved off. But no sooner had Mikhaylov disappeared around the bend then we heard from there the unimaginable firing of mortars, machineguns, and submachineguns.... Don't take offense, Sergey, but we thought at the time that you wouldn't get through," Pilnikov continued his account, slapping the sergeant sitting beside him on the shoulder.

Holding a submachinegun in one hand and using it to defend himself against the enemies, and holding the steering wheel with the other hand, Mikhaylov nevertheless broke through the dushman forces. The Mercedes covered the 20 km or so to the military camp at top speed. Right by the checkpoint it ran into infantry combat vehicles coming out of the gates. It turned out that Fedorov had managed to "get through on the air" for a few seconds and tell our people what was going on.

Mikhaylov proved most useful. Captain Ya. Kushkis, group commander, now acquired a knowledgeable and reliable guide.

....Some 1.5 km from the reconnaissance scouts, who were fighting while surrounded, the infantry combat vehicles came up against a mighty wall of fire and joined hard battle. Meanwhile, Sgt Mikhaylov led a small group of servicemen headed by Capt Kushkis through thickets toward the surrounded scouts, making their way past literally a few meters from the dushmans. The battle raged with new force. And soon one of the infantry combat vehicles made its way through to the adobe wall....

This is what Afghan roads are like: Dangerous, difficult. But they do not frighten Senior Lieutenants A. Pilnikov and I. Gavrilyuk (left and right, respectively, in the right-hand photograph) or their comrades and subordinates. Courageous people, they believe that the righteous cause will triumph.

MOSCOW TV SHOWS SOVIET DOCTORS IN DRA HOSPITALS

LD102308 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 10 Jan 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; A. Petrova, V. Gusev video report]

[Text] The injured are brought into the city: straight from the battlefield, not only men and officers, but also civil airline pilots, car drivers and civilians. These people have paid with their blood for their loyalty to their convictions.

Both the wounded and the staff at Kabul's Central Military Hospital demonstrate self-sacrifice and courage in equal measure. Soldier Wali Muhammad was wounded while repelling a raid by bandits in Helmand Province, which is on the border with Pakistan. Wali says that after he has recovered, he will once again volunteer to rejoin his unit in order to defend the achievements of the revolution.

Soviet specialists work equally selflessly alongside Afghan doctors. Leading surgeon Muhammad Aslam Ramaki is joined at the operating table by his Soviet colleague Georgiy Isayevich Chepcherov. Alongside Doctor Velayat, head of the hospital, is the Soviet professor Petr Petrovich Petrov. The head of the surgical department, Lieutenant Colonel Suhiyela Sidik, medical corps, is respected and loved at the hospital.

[Sidik] Unfortunately, Western radio voices assert that there are no doctors in Afghan hospitals and especially military hospitals, that there is no one to treat people. This is wholly untrue. Our high-qualified doctors work day and night to restore our heroic fighters to health. If enemies did not take from us so much strength and so many funds for a senseless war, how much we would be able to do for the people. And alongside us there are always our Soviet brothers, our teachers, to whom we are endlessly grateful for their selfless support.

TALYZIN SIGNS PROTOCOL IN CAMBODIA, ENDS TOUR

LD170052 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2135 16 Jan 86

[Report by correspondent Ye. Osipovskiy from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The visit by a USSR Party and Government delegation led by Comrade Talyzin to Cambodia has ended. Comrade Talyzin was received by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the central committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party. The leader of the Cambodian revolution expressed a determination to further strengthen friendship and all-round cooperation with the USSR and fully supported the consistent and principled line of the CPSU and the USSR in the struggle for peace and security. [Video shows distant shot of Talyzin and Heng Samrin seated on sofa at far end of room, with about seven other unidentified officials present; then close-up of Heng Samrin; then medium shot of Talyzin and Heng Samrin seated together]

After the talks between the planning bodies of the two countries ended a protocol was signed on their results concerning the development of trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and Cambodia. It is proposed that the volume of trade turnover between our two countries will almost double in the 1986-90 period compared with the previous 5 years. Here is what [Minister of Planning and Economics] Comrade Chea Soth had to say in this connection.

[Begin Chea Soth recording in Cambodian with superimposed Russian translation] Our talks were useful and fruitful. The USSR is giving assistance to Cambodia in all spheres. In the coming years deliveries to our country of petroleum products, equipment, motor vehicles and tractors, and everything needed for to restore and develop the Cambodian economy will be continued. For our part we shall supply the USSR with natural rubber, valuable types of timber, and certain kinds of agricultural products. Let me take advantage of this occasion to convey our great gratitude to the Soviet people for its all-round aid and support. [end recording]

Returns to Moscow

PM171017 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Text] Comrade Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and chairman of Gosplan, returned to Moscow today from his trip to Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. During his stay in Vietnam, he took part in the 37th sitting of the CEMA Committee for Cooperation in Planning, and was present as the head of a USSR Party and Government delegation at the completion of the second stage of crossing the Black River where the hydrocomplex Hoa Binh is being constructed with USSR assistance. In Hanoi, Vientiane and Phnom Penh, the final talks on coordinating state plans between the USSR and the SRV, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the Cambodia for the years of 1986-90 have been held and the appropriate documents signed.

At the Moscow airport N.V. Talyzin was met by P.N. Demichev candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, O.B. Rakhmanin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and CPSU Central Committee first deputy section chief, and other officials.

SRV'S PHAM VAN DONG CITED ON SOVIET ARMS PROPOSAL

LD162221 Moscow TASS in English 0815 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Hanoi January 16 TASS -- The comprehensive constructive programme of delivering the world from nuclear and chemical weapons set forth in the statement of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev opens up a remarkable opportunity for mankind's age-old dream to come true -- durable and reliable peace on earth, said Pham Van Dong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The new Soviet comprehensive peace proposals, he stressed in an interview to a TASS correspondent, demonstrate once again the USSR's high responsibility for the destinies of the living and would-be generations. The decision to prolong the term of the unilateral moratorium on any nuclear explosions provides striking evidence of the noble stand of the Soviet Union, its invariable goodwill. The Soviet leader's call to do away with the nuclear threat finds very broad response among all strata of the international public. It has become a new efficient impetus for invigoration of the struggle of all anti-war forces for peace and life, for the bright ideals of peaceful coexistence.

That very important document is of historical significance. The Vietnamese people fully support the Soviet Union-proposed realistic peace programme of struggle for all-embracing elimination of nuclear and chemical armaments, for prevention of their placement whatsoever in outer space. We, just as all progressive forces in the world, call upon the United States and other nuclear powers to follow the USSR's example, to join the Soviet initiatives and to jointly advance towards full nuclear disarmament, towards consolidation of peace and security of the peoples, stressed Pham Van Dong.

ZUBKOV NOTES ANTI-U.S. SENTIMENTS IN PHILIPPINES

OW160402 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1145 GMT 14 Jan 86

[From the "World Today" program, presented by Georgiy Zubkov]

[Text] The FILIPINO TIMES newspaper [as heard] in its editorial article today says that only a dim-witted person, under the influence of coarse U.S. propaganda, could believe in the existence of an outside threat to the Philippines. In the paper's opinion the example of many nonaligned states which broke with foreign military presence shows that a policy of neutrality represents an important contribution to the struggle for universal peace.

The appearance of such an article in the FILIPINO TIMES is not accidental. It was caused by the statement of the U.S. ambassador in this country, who confirmed that it is the intention of the U.S. administration to maintain a U.S. military presence in the Philippines. The U.S. ambassador tried to present the matter in such a way as to suggest that the United States was almost a guarantor of Philippines sovereignty.

But, returning to the article, it clearly says: U.S. bases on Philippines soil must be eliminated, in so far as they undermine national sovereignty, act as a potential target for retaliatory strikes, and are a stronghold of American militarism for intervention against other countries. To this, one may add that the movement for the immediate liquidation of all U.S. military facilities located in the Philippines is growing.

PHILIPPINE MINISTER SAYS U.S. ENVOY'S DEMANDS INSULTING

LD160726 Moscow TASS in English 0706 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Manila, January 16 TASS -- Leonardo Perez, Philippine minister for political affairs, has likened the pronouncements and activities of the U.S. ambassador to his country, Stephen Bosworth, to the conduct of Governor-generals in American colonies.

He said the continued demands for "fair and free" presidential elections, made by Washington's plenipotentiary envoy, were insulting to the Philippine people and their government.

The newspaper BULLETIN TODAY reported today that it had been suggested to submit the issue of the undersirability of Bosworth's further stay in this country for discussion by the next session of the National Assembly (parliament) of the Philippines.

SFRY PAPERS REPORT FURTHER ON DIZDAREVIC VISIT

BORBA on Gromyko Talks

AU160846 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 11-12 Jan 86 p 1

[Permanent correspondent T. Milinovic report]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 10 Jan -- Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs, who with the members of the Yugoslav delegation is paying an official friendly visit to the USSR, this morning met Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The head of the Soviet state received Dizdarevic in the Kremlin and had a conversation with him which lasted over 1 hour.

The reception by Gromyko was attended by Milojko Drulovic, SFRY ambassador in the USSR, and other personalities who participated in the earlier talks between Dizdarevic and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze.

The meeting in the Kremlin passed in a friendly and cordial manner.

Special attention was paid to the struggle for peace, the relaxation of tension in the world, and the prevention of the arms race. It was stressed that all the countries in the world should participate in these activities and make their contribution. In this connection, the need was stressed to "preserve the spirit of Geneva."

Gromyko explained the Soviet initiative in searching for peaceful solutions in international relations, expecially in the sphere of preventing the spread of the arms race. The chairman of the presidium stressed that this is a lasting Soviet orientation.

On this occasion Dizdarevic spoke about the role and activities of the Nonaligned Movement and the nonaligned policy in solving current political and economic problems, as well as about the forthcoming meeting of the representatives of nonaligned countries at the highest level.

Concern was expressed at the great problems in international economic relations and the need to solve them in an accelerated way was pointed out.

The talks at the reception also touched on the hotbeds of crisis in the world. The view was expressed that the dangers emanating from these conflicts may grow into explosive situations and may endanger overall peace in the world.

After being received by Gromyko -- which in fact concluded the Yugoslav-Soviet political talks -- Dizdarevic and the members of the Yugoslav delegation left Moscow for Tashkent.

In his dialogue with Shevardnadze, Dizdarevic had particularly stressed the significance of the Nonaligned Movement's activities, pointing out the irreplaceable role of the Nonaligned Movement and policy in overcoming the conflict situations in the world.

The visit by Federal Secretary Dizdarevic to the Soviet Union concludes on Sunday. At Sheremetyevo Airport in Moscow, he will make a statement for Soviet television on the results of his visit.

POLITIKA on Talks

AU160902 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 11 Jan 86 p 1

[Permanent correspondent D. Pesic report]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 10 Jan -- Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs, who is paying an official and friendly visit to the USSR, was received by Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, in the Kremlin this morning. The lengthy talks, which took place in a friendly and cordial atmosphere, dealt with the development of Soviet-Yugoslav relations and many topical international questions.

It was assessed with satisfaction that the mutual relations between the two friendly socialist countries have reached a significant level, that cooperation is comprehensive and based on the principles established in the Belgrade Declaration (1955) and Moscow Statement (1956), as well as on other corresponding documents adopted on the highest level. A readiness to further develop and enrich relations and cooperation was expressed in the talks.

The talks also touched upon the current international situation, and special attention was devoted to the struggle for peace and reducing international tension, in which, it was said, all world countries should take part.

The Geneva meeting between Reagan and Gorbachev was assessed positively.

Talks at the level of foreign ministers were concluded last night. Raif Dizdarevic and Eduard Shevardnadze devoted most of the time during this second meeting to an analysis of international relations.

Acknowledging the significance that a reduction in tension between the great powers undoubtedly has, it was also pointed out in the talks that this process of reducing tension can become stable and permament only when it is joined also by other members of the international community. During the exchange of opinions, the Yugoslav side supported certain Soviet peaceful initiatives aimed at preventing the arms race, achieving disarmament, and improving the international climate.

Federal Secretary Raif Dizdarevic also spoke about basic initiatives of the nonaligned countries and the nonaligned policy in general. He emphasized that nonaligned countries support the processes of reducing tension in the world, universal detente, and equality in international cooperation.

The joint assessment of the two foreign ministers was that the international situation is still very complex and dangerous, that there are new aggravations, and that all this requires intensified, constructive efforts by all countries to solve it. In analyzing the situation in some hotbeds of crisis in Asia, the two sides also expressed different assessments of their causes and ways to solve them.

In conclusion, the Soviet side confirmed its known critical assessment of the dangers ensuing from ambitions to militarize space.

The federal secretary for foreign affairs invited his host, Eduard Shevardnadze, to visit Yugoslavia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

BORBA Cites 'Frankness'

AU160933 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 13 Jan 86 p 1

[Permanent correspondent T. Milinovic report]

[Text] Moscow, 12 Jan -- Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs, today concluded the several-day official and friendly visit to the USSR and together with members of the Yugoslav delegation, left Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport for Belgrade in the afternoon.

The guest from Yugoslavia was seen off by Eduard Shevardnadze, Soviet minister of foreign affairs, and other Soviet high diplomatic officials. Also present was Milojko Drulovic, SFRY ambassador to the USSR, who was a member of the Yugoslav delegation in the talks held with Minister Shevardnadze and Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs gave a statement at the airport to Yugoslav journalists who reported on the visit from here, as well as a special statement for Soviet television which will be carried tonight.

"I am pleased with the results of the visit," Dizdarevic said. "We held very exhaustive talks for several hours in a friendly atmosphere of complete frankness [puna otvorenost] and mutual respect about both our bilateral relations and current international questions.

"The talks about bilateral relations concentrated on the further development of cooperation in all spheres, starting from the assessment of permanently valid principles on which these relations have been developing since the Belgrade Declaration. It turned out that both the room and the readiness exist for developing those relations and expanding cooperation...," our federal secretary pointed out. He stressed that useful talks were also held about current international questions, primarily about the efforts made with a view to reducing international tension with the participation of all world countries. Special responsibility for reducing tension lies on the Soviet Union and the United States because of the impact their relations have on the world situation.

"Our side pointed out the interest and engagement of the Nonaligned Movement," Dizdarevic said, as an independent factor in international relations essential for the universal and successful reduction of tension. "Both during the talks we had with Comrades Gromyko and Shevardnadze, and on the occasion of our visit to Uzbekistan, we acquainted ourselves with the extensive creative efforts being invested so that further social and economic progress in the building of socialism in the USSR may be ensured.

"We met with a cordial welcome everywhere, and the atmosphere was very friendly," Federal Secretary Dizdarevic said.

LCY PLENUM DISCUSSES SFRY DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT

PM161050 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "LCY Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Belgrade, 15 Jan -- A routine LCY Central Committee plenum opened here yesterday. It discussed the document drawn up on the initiative of the LCY Central Committee Presidium concerning the further development and improvement of the political system of Yugoslav society.

A report on this question was delivered at the plenum by J. Vrhovec, member of the SFRY State Presidency. Dwelling on the main provisions of the document, he stressed that in this instance "it is a question of reinforcing the definite results achieved in the country's sociopolitical development and outlining ways of eliminating existing problems and difficulties, including in developing the political system, and not of replacing the existing political system with some other system." In this connection the main speaker pointed to the need to rebuff any attempts by antisocialist elements to exploit the discussion of the document for subversive purposes.

The further development of the political system, he noted, must rely firmly and consistently on the interests of the working class and all working people. The LCY, as society's leading ideological and political force, is called upon to reliably support and guarantee the implementation of these interests.

PRAVDA NOTES TALKS BETWEEN CSSR'S GERLE, SILAYEV

PM161048 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received L. Gerle, CSSR deputy premier, 14 January and had a friendly talk with him on questions of the further development of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the CSSR and the Soviet Union.

M. Zavadil, CSSR ambassador to the USSR, took part in the talk.

FURTHER REPORT ON TRADE AGREEMENT WITH BULGARIA

AU131706 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 11 Jan 86 p 1, 5

[RABOTNICHESKO DELO correspondent Atanas Atanasov report from Moscow: "A Lasting Guarantee for Assured Advance"]

[Text] Today, 10 January, after the successful conclusion of the trade and economic negotiations, a long-term trade agreement for the 1986-90 period and a protocol for the exchange of goods and payments during 1986 were signed here between the People's Republic of Bulgaria [PRB] and the USSR.

The documents were signed by Khisto Khristov, the PRB minister of foreign trade, and the USSR. The signing was also attended by Dimitur Zhulev, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the PRB to the Soviet Union.

The long-term trade agreement, the protocol for mutual exchange of goods during this year, and the agreement signed yesterday for cooperation in the construction, reconstruction, and modernization of industrial and other installations in the PRB are of great significance for both countries, especially for the PRB. The arguments in this case may be summed up in one sentence: Inasmuch as the overwhelming part of Bulgaria's national income is derived from international exchange and the greater part of our exchange of goods is with the Soviet Union, then naturally, the programmed rhythm of our future interrelations in this sphere predetermines to a large extent the stability of our social-economic development.

The contents of these documents are based on unshakable political and economic foundations; give a material form to the common course of the BCP and the CPSU for comprehensive cooperation and the drawing together of our parties, countries, peoples and are an expression of the long-term agreements between comrades Todor Zhivkov and Mikhail Gorbachev. As far as the economic foundations are concerned, the following figures speak for themselves: Over the last 5-year-plan period the value of Soviet-Bulgarian trade amounts to R51.7 billion (with R40 billion under the long-term agreement). Is this a large or a small amount? By way of comparison, during the 1976-80 5-year-plan period a goods exchange to the value of R29.9 billion was achieved, while during 1971-75 the figure was R13.5 billion. The above figures give an idea not only of the dynamics of the mutual exchange of goods, but also indicate the direction in which the productive forces of both countries and, most of all, the integration processes between them, are devoloping. One should know, for example, that in the Bulgarian exports of products carried out under agreements for international specialization and production-sharing, the portion exported to the USSR exceeds 80 percent. These are mainly products for engineering, which make up more than 72 percent of our total exports to the USSR.

On the other hand, the PRB is the largest importer of engineering products from the Soviet Union (over 13 percent of the Soviet exports in the field). The Soviet deliveries of machines and equipment continue to play a crucial role in the new construction, technical reequipment, reconstruction, and modernization of our industry. Furthermore, one cannot overstress the significance of the Soviet deliveries of fuels and energy carriers [energonositeli], without which the undeviating advance of our country is unthinkable.

These typical features of Bulgarian-Soviet trade and economic relations are also characteristic of the long-term trade agreement until the end of the decade. Again, this provides for a comparatively intensive exchange of goods -- a total of R70 billion for the 5-year-plan period, 40 percent more than that actually achieved during the preceding period. The considerable increase in our exports is once more due to the specialized products of machine building, electronics, and electrical engineering, that is, products which are the result of scientific-technical progress.

Once again the USSR will be the number one supplier of machines and equipment for the PRB. Of vital significance for our economy, particularly at the present stage, are the complete sets of equipment for the atomic power-generating stations and other installations, equipment so necessary for the reconstruction of the entire power industry, metallurgical, chemical, machine-building and other branches of industry. The fact should also be emphasized that during the coming years until the end of the decade the inflow of fuels, raw materials, and other materials from the USSR will be unchanged in volume.

The mutual exchange of consumer goods will also develop at a stable rate. We will receive from the Soviet Union an even wider range of domestic equipment, including color televisions, washing-machines, cameras, clocks, and watches, etc. Provision is also made for 40,000 cars to be imported.

The PRB export lists feature cosmetics and perfumery goods, ready-to-wear clothes, knitwear, furniture, and so on. Bulgarian exports of fresh and processed fruit and vegetables will also increase.

The protocol for 1986 provides for the value of the goods exchange to rise to R12.8 billion, as compared to R12.2 billion for 1985.

After signing the two documents, the ministers of foreign trade of the two countries made made short statements.

Boris Aristov: "In preparing the agreement and the protocol we were guided by the decisions of the Moscow summit economic conference of the CEMA member-countries and by the results of the meetings and conversations between Comrades Mikhail Gorbachev and Todor Zhivkov. Significant is the fact that we are signing these documents on the eve of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 13th BCP Congress. The size of the mutual exchange of goods for the 5-year-plan period, which exceeds the figure of R70 billion, as well as its progressive structure, are a good contribution to the implementation of the tasks which our parties set out in their programs.

"I must note with satisfaction the further development of the integrated forms of economic cooperation, including the direct links between industrial enterprises, trusts, scientific institutes, and other organizations of the two countries. A new feature in our interrelations are the joint Soviet-Bulgarian scientific-production trusts in the field of machine building; these will undoubtedly spread in the future in the system of CEMA."

Khristo Khristov: "The relations between the BCP and CPSU, and between the Bulgarian and Soviet peoples, have long since become a vivid example a new, socialist international relations, based on Leniniist internationalism, firm friendship, and unity in all stages of socialisc construction.

"We take into account that the new 5-year-plan period will not be a repetition of the 5-year period already past. The new tasks which the central committees of our parties are setting up, are dictated by life, by the new stage of development which our countries have entered, and by the need to introduce in practice the latest achievements of the modern scientific-technical revolution. For the People's Republic of Bulgaria, cooperation with the Soviet Union is a factor of exceptional significance. This cooperation ensures our people independence and the conditions for successfully sovling the social-economic tasks set out by our party."

Both ministers stressed in different ways that after the signing of the documents a great deal of intense work lay ahead in order to fulfill them. The issue was not only that the relevant contracts should be concluded in the very near future, but also that from this time on the necessary preconditions should be ensured for the most strict execution of the mutual deliveries according to the quantities, range, and qualitative indices provided, and within the set time-limits.

MARCHUK INTERVIEWED ON COOPERATION WITH ROMANIA

For an interview with Guriy I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, on prospects for expansion of Soviet-Romanian scientific-technical cooperation, please see the Romania section of the 17 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

ARKHIPOV, FINLAND'S SORSA FINISH ECONOMIC TALKS

LD162305 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1655 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Helsinki, 16 Jan (TASS) -- A meeting between the co-chairmen of the Standing Intergovernmental USSR-Finnish Commission for Economic Cooperation took place in Finland from 13-16 January 1986.

The USSR delegation was headed by I.V. Arkhipov, chairman of the USSR side of the commission and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and the Finnish delegation by K. Sorsa, chairman of the Finnish side of the commission and prime minister of Finland.

Questions of the state of and the prospects for developing trade and economic ties between the two countries were examined at the meeting. A draft protocol on the clarification, augmentation, and extension of the long-term program for developing and deepening trade and economic, industrial, and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and Finland up to the year 2000 was agreed.

It was noted with satisfaction that USSR-Finnish trade and economic relations in 1985 and during the 1981-1985 5-Year Plan as a whole have been developing actively. The volume of trade turnover during the past 5 years amounted to $35 billion, in other words it nearly doubled compared with the previous 5-year period, having exceeded by one-quarter the guidelines for the long-term program. The range of mutually-supplied goods expanded and new forms of cooperation emerged.

It was noted from both sides that the development of industrial cooperation, particularly in the field of machine-building and shipbuilding, the production of means of communication, instruments, means of transport, and so on is an important reserve for the growth of trade exchange between the USSR and Finland. Questions of cooperation in the field of the joint construction of projects on both countries' terrories were examined.

Through an agreement on trade turnover and payments for 1986-1990 the volume of services by Finnish firms in the construction of projects in the USSR is envisaged on the level of the previous 5-year plan with the possibility of an increase. Several large contracts have already been signed on this article of the agreement.

USSR-Finnish cooperation in the construction and reconstruction of projects on Finnish territory is developing successfully. With the assistance of USSR organizations, a coke and chemical installation is being built and an oxygen converter shop modernized at the metallurgical combine in Raahe, a heat and power plant is being built at Joensuu, as is a new section of a gas pipeline from Kouvola to Tampere with a branch line to Helsinki.

RYZHKOV RECEIVES FRANCE'S CRESSON IN KREMLIN

LD170946 Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 17 TASS -- A talk has begun in the Kremlin today between Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Nikolay Ryzhkov and Minister of Industrial Redeployment and Foreign Trade Edith Cresson.

Edith Cresson has been staying in Moscow since January 15 in connection with the holding of the 20th session of the Soviet-French intergovernmental "Grand" Commission.

IZVESTIYA Interviews Cresson

PM161141 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Interview with Edith Cresson, French minister of industrial redeployment and foreign trade, by own correspondent Yu. Kovalenko in Paris: "France-USSR: In the Interests of Cooperation" -- date not stated]

[Text] Paris -- The jubilee, 20th, session of the standing joint Soviet-French commission on scientific-technical and economic cooperation is opening in Moscow. Yu. Kovalenko, our Paris correspondent, the head of the French delegation, met with Edith Cresson, minister of industrial redeployment and foreign trade, on the eve of her departure for Moscow and had a talk with her. Here is what she said:

The general directors and presidents of about 50 of the biggest French firms -- Renault, Usinor, Interagra, Technip, Thomson, Spie Batignolles, and others -- and representatives of a number of ministries will take part with me in the work of the "Grand Commission."

The present session is particularly important. Above all because it is taking place 3 months after M.S. Gorbachev's visit to France, which was a very important event of international significance. During this visit the two sides expressed the desire for the further active development of ties. Unless I am wrong, I am the first minister to have had the honor to visit Moscow since the Franco-Soviet summit talks.

We attach exceptionally great importance to the "Grand Commission's" 20th session and the meetings with representatives of ministries and departments to be held in the Soviet Union to discuss all the problems which perturb the two sides. Summing up the results of the past year, I note that a number of large-scale agreements and contracts have been concluded between our countries and we believe that this tendency will be maintained in the future. We are seeking to expand trade and economic exchanges. It should be emphasized that France has begun to take a more active part in the exhibitions and fairs held in the Soviet Union.

The "Grand Commission's" opening session is also of particular importance because it is taking place on the threshold of the 28th CPSU Congress, which will discuss the draft Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and the period through 2000. I hope that we will be able to take part in implementing a number of projects.

Returning to the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's visit to France, I want to say that I was pleased to accompany him during his visit to the automobile plant in Poissy, near Paris, during which he impressed everyone by his questions, which showed his good knowledge of the automobile industry and its problems. M.S. Gorbachev was given a warm reception and I myself saw him being applauded by people directly on the street, and that was no accident. This reaction is evidence that the French people experience profound, sincere sympathy for the Soviet people.

I remember that French President F. Mitterrand has frequently advocated having the best possible relations with the Soviet Union in all spheres -- political, economic, and cultural. I believe that our two countries can by their joint efforts help to strengthen peace in Europe and throughout the world and to normalize the international situation and make a contribution to the prevention of the arms race.

FRG FIGURES WELCOME GORBACHEV ARMS PROPOSAL

Genscher Cited

LD161711 Moscow TASS in English 1606 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Bonn, January 16 TASS -- The West German News Agency DDP reports today that the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany welcomed the new Soviet peace initiatives put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. As Minister of Foreign Affairs of the F.R.G. Hans-Dietrich Genscher said today, the Government of the F.R.G. together with its partners in the North Atlantic alliance will carefully study these proposals.

Another round of Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on nuclear and space arms makes it possible to discuss without delay questions related to nuclear arms reduction. The Government of the F.R.G. hopes that these initiatives will assist in making tangible progress at the talks, the DDP report emphasizes.

DKP's Mies on Proposal

LD161754 Moscow TASS in English 1609 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Bonn, January 16 TASS -- The programme of a total elimination of nuclear weapons worldwide, put forward by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, is a correct, bold and necessary response to the nuclear menace that is looming large over all of mankind, Herbert Mies, chairman of the German Communist Party, has declared in Dusseldorf.

The German Communist Party wholly approves of the Soviet leader's statement which reflects the Soviet Union's peaceful policy, Mies stressed.

The USSR's latest proposals open the way towards improving the international situation, detente and peaceful cooperation between peoples. They fully correspond to the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space armaments, currently under way in Geneva, he said.

German Communists welcome the Soviet proposals also because they meet the demand, expressed by millions of inhabitants of the Federal Republic of Germany, for the removal of all American first-strike nuclear missiles from the country's territory and for the prevention of the militarization of outer space.

The implementation of the Soviet initiatives, noted the chairman of the German Communist Party, would largely facilitate the successful solution of other global problems, such as combatting hunger, diseases and economic backwardness, and the problem of environmental protection.

UK ANTI-NUCLEAR GROUP ON SUPPORT FOR SDI, CRUISE

LD161159 Moscow TASS in English 1112 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] London, January 16 TASS -- The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, a mass public organisation in Britain, has accused the Thatcher government of holding back progress on the way to curbing the arms race.

Despite its professed desire for peace London has supported Washington's so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative" which, if realized, can only escalate the arms race, and intends to go ahead with the deployment of American missiles, says a statement published here. The chairman of this organisation Jones said that news of the completion of deployment of 96 cruise missiles at Greenham Common shows the government's total disregard for public opinion.

ROME CEREMONY MARKS PUBLICATION OF GORBACHEV BOOK

PM161440 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jan 86 p 3

[Own correspondent A. Smirnov dispatch: "Published in Italy"]

[Text] Rome -- An official ceremony has been held at the Soviet Embassy in Rome to present a collection of speeches and articles by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, entitled "The USSR Approaching the Year 2000: Peace and Socialism" published in Italian by the Teti publishing house of Milan. Prominent statesmen, politicians, and public figures in the country, representatives of business circles, and cultural figures attended the ceremony.

The publication of M.S. Gorbachev's book, Senator Arrigo Boldrini, chairman of the National Association of Italian Partisans, stated in an interview with this correspondent, is an important event for Italy. The country's democratic public has gained new evidence that the USSR steadily strives for peace, international cooperation, and the ending of the arms race. Many of M.S. Gorbachev's speeches and articles collected in the book are devoted to international problems that are very close to and understood by Europe. Italy's progressive forces support the Soviet state's important new peace initiatives and will strive to ensure that our government also plays its part in implementing them, A. Boldrini stressed.

M.S. Gorbachev's book was presented by N.M. Lunkov, USSR ambassador to Italy and candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee.

TASS REPORTS MILITARY BUILDUP ON SICILY

LD161208 Moscow TASS in English 1010 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Rome, January 16 TASS -- There has been a marked increase in military presence on Sicily island, accommodating NATO and U.S. military bases, over recent days under orders from the Italian Defense Ministry.

The newspaper STAMPA reported that a large air-defense unit has arrived there, armed with anti-aircraft guns capable of shooting down enemy planes flying at an altitude of up to 3,500 meters.

The paper said the anti-aircraft batteries will most likely be deployed near the NATO bases at Sigonella and Comiso. The first of these bases serves ships of the U.S. 6th fleet based in the Mediterranean, while the other is the deployment site for the first batch of American cruise missiles which have already been put in operational readiness. All NATO and American military facilities on Sicily are being currently kept on high alert.

Besides, a paratrooper battalion from the Italian quick-reaction force has been moved to the Italian island of Lampedusa located between Africa and Sicily.

REPORTAGE ON SITUATION IN PDRY

Warning to YAR

JN170816 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0800 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] The state of affairs in the PDRY continues to be obscure. However, what is certain is that fierce fighting continues between the disputing parties. The French Embassy in Aden was damaged as a result of the shelling. This was stated by a well-informed diplomatic source in Djibouti who did not elaborate on the extent of the damage but added that many French citizens who are residing in Aden had sought refuge in their embassy to escape the shelling.

A Western Diplomatic source has stated that USSR leader Gorbachev sent a message to YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih warning him against any interference by his country in the PDRY.

Negotiations at Soviet Embassy

LD171018 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0924 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jan (KUNA) -- Senior diplomatic sources have told KUNA that the Kremlin leaders are in continuous contact with their embassy in Aden and are following the situation with interest, while the PDRY prime minister, Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas on his arrival here yesterday had talks with his Soviet counterpart Nikolay Rizhkov. The sources, which asked to remain anonymous, said that negotiations are taking place inside the Soviet embassy in Aden between the supporters of the ex-president, 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, and the supporters of President 'ali Nasir Muhammad in order to settle the conflict peacefully. The sources said that Mr al-'Attas might today meet the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, to inform him about the true situation on the Yemeni arena after the recent coup d'etat.

Moscow to Evacuate Nationals

LD171029 Paris Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Moscow has decided to evacuate all its nationals from Aden because of the deteriorating situation in South Yemen.

Aliyev Welcomes PDRY Delegation

LD161551 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 16 TASS -- Haydar Abu Bakr Al-'Attas, Gakr al-Attas, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, 'Abd al-Aniz Al-Dali, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist party, minister of foreign affairs of the PDRY and Ahmad 'Ubayd al-Fadli, minister of trade and supplies of the PDRY, arrived in Moscow today enroute from New Delhi.

At the airport the South Yemeni guests were met by Geydar Aliyev, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., and other officials.

A.S. Muhammad, charge d'affaires of the PDRY in the USSR was among the welcoming party.

Situation 'Tense' in Capital

LD161641 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1604 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Jan (TASS) -- According to reports reaching here, a tense situation prevails in the capital of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY], Aden. During armed clashes over the past few days the international airport has been hit and a number of buildings damaged. The opposing sides have been unable to observe the cease-fire in a number of areas. The country's communications with the outside world remain unstable. Conflicting reports are coming in about the whereabouts of a number of members of the party and state leadership.

Steps are being taken to end the fighting, to normalize the situation and to resume the work of state establishments.

PDRY President Appeals for Calm

GF161417 Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Reports from the PDRY indicate that the situation in that country is gradually returning to normal. An attempted coup took place in the PDRY on 13 January. Bahrain's GULF DAILY NEWS has reported that PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has appeared on television to appeal for calm.

GOVOROV WATCHES KUWAITI ARMY MANEUVERS, DEPARTS

LD161350 Kuwait KUNA Diplomatic Information Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] [no dateline as received] Units of the Kuwaiti Army and Armed Forces yesterday carried out a maneuver with live ammunition at Al-Zalqah area, which was attended by General Govorov, Soviet Deputy Defense Minister and Major General 'Abdallah Farraj al-Ghanim, chief of staff of the Kuwaiti Armed Forces, and a number of senior officers.

Sophisticated Soviet weapons, recently purchased by Kuwait, were used in the exercises which took the form of an operation to foil an attempt to occupy the oil wells.

The Soviet guest congratulated the Kuwaiti military on their performance and good use of the new weapons. The guest left Kuwait today.

Delegation Departs 16 Jan

LD161104 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1013 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Jan (KUNA) -- Soviet Deputy Defense Minister Lieutenant General Vladimir Govorov and his accompanying delegation left the country this morning following an official visit lasting 6 days.

Chief of Staff of the Army and the Armed Forces Major General 'Abdallah Ferraj al-Ghanim, and Faysal al-Dawud, assistant under secretary of the Ministry of Defense for local equipment and financial affairs, as well as other high-ranking officers, saw him off.

In answer to a question of whether the Kuwaiti Army will be supplied with the required Soviet weapons the Soviet deputy defense minister told journalists that "everything is possible." Asked whether it will be possible to supply the Kuwaiti Army with the air weapons, Lt Gen Vladimir Govorov said that these issues were discussed at the level of both states. Regarding his impression of the tactical exercise that the Kuwaiti Army held yesterday, he said that "the results of the exercise were good and that the Kuwaiti Army enjoys high efficiency." Lt Gen Govorov said: "We greatly appreciate our visit to Kuwait, and the visit has been successful. During this visit good and useful meetings were held with the Kuwaiti commanders, and views were exchanged on various issues of mutual interest." He added that the views of the two states are close, and that "we are taking back with us very good memories of the Kuwaiti people. We would like to thank the State of Kuwait for the hospitality we were given."

SOVIET RECONNAISSANCE PLANES REPORTEDLY OPERATING OUT OF LIBYA

TA161825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] The Russians are flying reconnaissance planes from Libya, and operating a spy ship off the coast of Israel. Reporter Alan Ben-'Ami says that according to an Israeli source, two Soviet destroyers and another ship fitted out for electronic surveillance are sailing at distances of 30 to 80 km from Israel's shores.

Defense Minister Rabin said yesterday that the Russians have increased their fleet in the area, with the aim of providing an early-warning system for Libya against any possible attack. Reporter Ben-'Ami says that the Russians are also operating reconnaissance planes from Libya which are making flights over the Mediterranean, and information they gather is being passed on to the Libyans.

PRAVDA ANALYZES SUDANESE POLITICAL SCENE

PM161456 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent V. Peresada: "Sudan at the Crossroads"]

[Excerpt] Khartoum, January -- Sudan is the largest state in Africa. Its area is 2.5 million square kilometers. Not many more than 20 million people live in this vast area. Despite rich natural resources it remains a poor, agrarian country with an underdeveloped industry. And in agriculture priority is given to one crop -- cotton. But under the previous regime even this modest economic potential began to decline.

You will recall that President Numayri, who conducted an antidemocratic, proimperialist course, was overthrown on 6 April last year as a result of a military coup. The coup took place at the height of the working people's general strike which was threatening to turn into a popular uprising. By then the Alliance of Nationalist Forces for National Salvation, which comprised most of the trade unions and parties banned under Numayri, including the Communist Party, had started operating and there had been a sharp increase in opposition to the regime among the army rank and file.

Essentially a situation had arisen where the regime could have been swept away by the movement of the masses. The strength and scope of the movement had a considerable influence on the development of the situation in the country.

The primary question that arose after the coup, that of Sudan's political setup, was decided by means of talks between the Transitional Military Council, which had come to power, and the Alliance. They agreed that a constitutional form of rule would be established in the country after a transitional period of 1 year. A transitional government was formed with civilians occupying most of the posts. A charter put forward by the Alliance formed the basis of political cooperation between the military administration and civilian forces. It identified two main goals: first, to eliminate the structures of the previous regime and all the consequences of its rule and, second, to lay the foundation for a democratic life and for the strengthening of Sudan's independence.

Nine months have elapsed. What has changed in the country? We talked about this at the headquarters of the supreme commander in chief of the armed forces with Colonel General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council.

"The most tangible changes have taken place in political life," he said. "Now citizens enjoy democratic rights, they are free to have views and opinions, and many parties are operating. A provisional constitution has been instituted in accordance with which there will be elections to a constituent assembly (parliament). A number of measures have been adopted in order to improve the state of affairs in the economy. It has been possible somewhat to ease the acute problem of famine caused by the severe drought. Certain other decisions adopted at the start of the new period have also been implemented...

The decisions include the disbandment of the ruling party under Numayri and the secret police apparatus, the abolition of the old local administrative bodies and appointment of new governors and the release of all political prisoners. Around 30 commissions set up by the prosecutor's office are examining crimes committed against the peoples by the bosses of the old regime. The case of Numayri himself is being dealt with in his absence, since he is still in hiding abroad, where he was overtaken by the April events.

Recently a new program document was adopted in Sudan -- the "Charter in Defense of Democracy." It was signed by representatives of the main parties and trade union associations in the Alliance and also on behalf of the Transitional Military Council. The document stresses that the development of Sudan must take place without fail in conditions of democratic rule and it calls for the creation of a mass front of resistance in the event of any attempt to establish a military or civil dictatorship. Essentially this is a political agreement reflecting the desire of the vast majority of Sudanese to consolidate the changes that have taken place in the country.

But the situation in Sudan is far from straightforward. The nearer we get to the end of the transitional period, the fiercer the struggle becomes between the supporters of democratization and its opponents. It is taking place in a situation where many structures of the old regime remain intact, nearly all the antidemocratic laws adopted under Numayri remain, and thousands of former secret police agents have gone into hiding, putting their weapons by. The right-wing bourgeois parties who have signed the Alliance's charger, in particular the national unionist and "Al-Ummah" parties, have as their target a certain "liberalization," but by no means profound changes.

The Sudanese Communist Party (SCP), which was operating underground for many years, is waging a struggle from genuinely patriotic positions for the country's renewal. Despite savage repression, the SCP was able to hold on to its membership and is now widening its work among the masses in legal conditions, firmly upholding the aspirations of working people and Sudan's national interests. The party paper AL-MAYDAN is a trenchant commentator on all topical problems and is the most popular paper in the country.

"The current political situation is characterized by a sharp increase in the threat from the right," Muhammad Ibrahim al-Nuqd, general secretary of the SCP Central Committee, said. "It springs primarily from the 'Muslim Brotherhood' organization and other right-wing groupings which have close links with the parasitic bourgeoisie. The reactionary forces have embarked on vigorous plotting activities and they have outside support, primarily from the United States. In the present situation we are urging all national patriotic forces in the country to unite in the broadest possible front to protect democracy and the people's interests."

We saw for ourselves that the Sudanese rightists are dying to gain power when we visited the headquarters of the "Islamic National Front." The "Muslim Brotherhood" organization is top dog in it. They talked cautiously with us, but they did not conceal the fact that on the threshold of the elections the front is doing intensive work to enlist support and would not be averse to becoming the "leading force in Sudan."

Internal stability is also affected by the fact that the very acute political problem of southern Sudan is not settled yet. This extensive zone is populated by negroid tribes with Christian and pagan beliefs, whereas the rest of the country is populated by Muslim Arabs. The solution of the southern problem is bound up with providing the region with definite national political status within the framework of a single Sudanese state. Democratic forces in Khartoum are seeking to promote the start of a settlement by means of talks. But armed clashes are continuing in the south between local rebels and government troops. It is in these difficult conditions that Sudan's foreign policy course is being implemented, a course which, it has been stated, is based on the principles of nonalignment and good-neighborliness in the region. It is noteworthy in this connection that last year Sudan refused for the first time to participate in the "Bright Star" military maneuvers periodically organized by the Pentagon. Measures have been taken to normalize relations with Libya and Ethiopia.

"In the recent past Sudan's relations with the great Soviet Union were not what they should have been," Siwar al-Dhahab said. "Now we are seeking to improve and strengthen these relations, established when Sudan declared independence, so that Sudanese-Soviet ties can broaden in various spheres. This is undoubtedly in the interests of our peoples."

In 30 years of independence the republic has seen both a brief ripple of democracy and protracted periods of obscurantism. The heavy yoke of dictatorship was cast off last spring. Today Sudan is going through a new and relatively complex stage in its history on whose outcome its future depends.

COMMENTARY VIEWS IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT

GF161012 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1700 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution, in a recent press conference called for ending the war that has raged between Iran and Iraq for the past 5 years. The aggressive actions of the United States and Israel against Libya have made clear just how useful this war is to the imperialists and the Zionists and how much damage it is doing to the Islamic countries.

While Iran and Iraq are fighting and weakening each other, they are also reducing their potential to confront U.S. and Israeli intrigues in the Middle East and North Africa. The battlefront between Iran and Iraq, which has been active for the past 5 years, is consuming both countries' manpower and technology. The war also imposes a heavy burden on the peoples of Iran and Iraq. The number of casualties has already reached hundreds of thousands of dead and wounded. According to Iran watchers, the war is consuming some 43 percent of Iran's national budget. Its export of oil has greatly fallen, and the production of oil and oil products is down. Due to shortages of raw materials and technical machinery and shortages of expert cadres, Iranian industrial production is down by 50 percent compared to prewar days. Shortages of foodstuffs are also being felt. Wheat, rice, [word indistinct], sugar, and other foodstuffs are being imported. Although many people are engaged in agriculture, prices have soared and inflation and unemployment are on the rise. The people of Iraq also are suffering many hardships. The imperialist and Zionist circles believe that the more Iran and Iraq weaken each other, the more they will become vulnerable to imperialist and Zionist control.

Iran and Iraq are engaged in fratricide and thus are unable to participate in the anti-imperialist struggle waged by Libya, Syria, the PDRY, Algeria, the Arab Palestinian people, and other progressive Muslims. The war has adversely affected Muslim unity against the imperialists and Zionists, because not all Muslim countries hold the same attitudes toward the Gulf war. Thus, this makes the stand and position of the Muslim countries against their common enemy -- American imperialism and Zionism -- weak. The Gulf war makes it easy for the imperialists to attain their designs in the area. The war provides them with a readymade excuse to transfer U.S. forces -- the RDF -- to southwest Asia for staging threatening military maneuvers in this region by forces armed with nuclear weapons. While the guns roar between Iran and Iraq, the United States is busy making military preparations against Muslim countries like Libya.

In these circumstances, it is natural that all Muslim countries as well as world peoples in general should want to see an end to the Iran-Iraq war. The peace initiatives by the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, AAPSO, the Islamic Conference Organization, and other prominent bodies are trying to end this war. All these organizations believe that the ending of the Iraq-Iran war will reduce tension in the Middle East. It also will have positive influence on the international situation. As far as the Soviet Union and the socialist countries are concerned, all these countries favor ending the Iran-Iraq war through talks. The Warsaw Pact countries in their Prague communique urged talks between Iran and Iraq for solving their differences. The Soviet Union, during its talks with Iran in Moscow last year, made similar proposals. The Soviet Union believes that ending the Iran-Iraq war will be in the interests of the peoples of Iran and Iraq and will help their progress toward their national objectives. However, the continuation of the war will only benefit U.S., Israeli, Zionist, and reactionary interests in the region.